Government of
Saskatchewan

2005 - 2006
Annual Report

Saskatchewan
Environment

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This document can be found online at: www.se.gov.sk.ca

Letters of Transmittal

July 2006

Her Honour the Honourable Dr. Lynda M. Haverstock
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May It Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Department of Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Nilson, Q.C.
Minister of Environment

July 2006

The Honourable John T. Nilson, Q.C.
Minister of Environment

Dear Sir:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2006.

Saskatchewan Environment made good progress during 2005-06 to implement the shifts in direction announced last year. These shifts respond to changes in issues facing the environment that are widespread across the landscape like water pollution, invasion of exotic species or climate change. These types of issues are more effectively handled through partnerships, education, and technical innovation than a more formal regulatory approach.

The department focused on three strategic areas: the Green Strategy, compliance strategy for a new environmental management model, and organizational management.

Saskatchewan Environment worked diligently with stakeholders, other government departments and agencies to secure input on the provincial Green Strategy. When complete, the new long-term provincial strategy will provide the foundation for addressing emerging environmental issues and ensuring sustainable growth of our province.

Another important aspect of the shift in direction is an improved focus of compliance effort on high-risk issues and the development of new compliance tools. Much compliance-related work was accomplished last year on a number of fronts. Risk assessments were completed to assist with prioritization and allocation of resources. A new model was developed to guide compliance planning, and best practices research is helping guide the creation of new, less regulatory approaches to compliance. Further advancements were made on legislative and regulatory tools as part of the work on the Green Strategy. This includes research on initiatives in other jurisdictions where outcome-based approaches and a broader range of compliance measures are in place. Finally, a benchmark study and strategic analysis of current compliance and field services capacity was completed.

The province's forest industry, particularly the pulp and paper sector, is facing market and industry transformation. The department re-directed resources to the new Forestry Secretariat to support its work providing leadership for the strategic reconfiguration of the province's forest industry, as the sector adapts to changing Canadian and world markets. An analysis of wood residues was completed, laying the groundwork to enable pursuit of bio-energy and other opportunities to convert Saskatchewan's wood residual stockpiles from a liability to an asset.

To build on improvements made to the organization last year, Saskatchewan Environment is, and will continue to address each of the Provincial Auditor's recommendations to improve effectiveness and accountability following the discovery of financial irregularities in December 2004. Last spring, considerable attention was devoted to producing the department's Internal Audit Report and the response to the Provincial Auditor's Spring 2005 Report. We continued to implement a Respectful Workplace Strategy and actions to nurture a culture that supports all aspects of a respectful work environment.

Work is also progressing to resolve the divergent and multiple interests in the Great Sand Hills area. Provincial parks were featured prominently in both local and provincial centennial celebrations, and the Centennial Park Passport Program was very successful, resulting in a 12 per cent increase in overall visitation.

In closing, I want to recognize and extend my appreciation to staff for their continued professionalism and dedication to resource and environmental management. Many thanks also to stakeholders and members of the public who support the many programs and services the department administers throughout the province.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Parkinson
Acting Deputy Minister

Introduction

Saskatchewan is blessed with an abundance of natural resources and a clean and healthy environment. Still, there are increasing pressures on our environment from the cumulative impact of human actions. Our province's current and long-term prosperity depends on the proper protection, development and management of our environment and natural resources.

This year's Annual Report outlines Saskatchewan Environment's progress, results and performance measures over the April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006 period. Management is responsible for ensuring that this report reflects all relevant circumstances and decisions. The 2005-06 Annual Report serves two functions:

- Reports to the public, stakeholders, management, and the Legislature on results achieved against key actions and performance measures that were described in Saskatchewan Environment's 2005-06 Performance Plan, available at: http://www.se.gov.sk.ca/corporate/2005-06PerformancePlan.pdf. This plan was released in March 2005; and

- Sets out the results achieved against key actions included in the government-wide Budget and Performance Plan Summary for 2005-06, which was released with the 2005-06 budget, available at: http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance/budget05/budget summary.pdf.

Enhancements to this year's report include the addition of graphical trend information for more of our performance measures. Improvements in the annual report are tied to continued implementation of the government's system of planning, measuring and reporting. Reporting actual results, both financial and performance, compared to the plan released earlier in the year, is the cornerstone of our accountability to the public. Saskatchewan Environment's 2006-07 Performance Plan was released with the provincial budget on April 6, 2006 and can be found at:
http://www.se.gov.sk.ca/corporate/2006-07PerformancePlan.pdf.

Who We Are

Mandate - The mandate of Saskatchewan Environment is to protect and manage Saskatchewan's environmental and natural resources to maintain a high level of environmental quality, ensure sustainable development, and provide economic and social benefits for present and future generations.

Vision - Saskatchewan Environment's vision is "A high quality environment and healthy ecosystems in perpetuity which sustains social, health and economic well-being for all Saskatchewan citizens."

Key Programs and Services - The department works to fulfill this mandate by promoting stewardship of the air, land, water, and wild plants and animals throughout the province. Key responsibilities in relation to natural resources include forest management, forest fire suppression, parks, Crown land, and fish and wildlife management. Saskatchewan Environment also has management responsibilities to prevent pollution of provincial air, water and land, which it delivers through activities such as coordinating the environmental assessment process, air quality monitoring, water quality management and activities to control potential impacts of contaminated sites, hazardous goods, landfills and other similar sources of pollution.

Saskatchewan Environment recognizes that effective environmental stewardship requires shared responsibility for the decisions made and actions needed among stakeholders and the public. Saskatchewan Environment uses processes of co-management, partnership, public involvement, communications and education to build understanding among individuals and organizations of environmental challenges and to ensure that decisions needed are understood and well-informed by a wide range of community, economic and individual concerns.

Some of the legislation administered by Saskatchewan Environment that comprises the major tools for ensuring sustainable development and effective pollution prevention and resource management throughout the province include: The Environmental Assessment Act, The Environmental Management and Protection Act, The Forest Resources Management Act, The Prairie and Forest Fires Act, The Wildlife Act, The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994, and The Provincial Lands Act.

Department Organization - Program management and delivery is actioned by two divisions: Compliance, Fire and Forest Division and the Resource and Environmental Stewardship Division. Each has a provincial mandate. The Compliance, Fire and Forest Division is responsible for field and compliance services, fire management and forest ecosystems. The Resource and Environmental Stewardship Division is responsible for environmental protection, Crown lands, parks, fish and wildlife resource management, and human resources.

The Planning and Risk Analysis Division is responsible for key corporate strategic services, including Green Strategy development; environmental assessment; information management; strategic environmental studies, including the Great Sand Hills study; risk analysis; corporate evaluation; strategic planning; policy and legislative services; and intergovernmental and Aboriginal affairs.

Communications Branch delivers strategic communications and encourages information exchange, increased participation in department programs, public input into policy and program development and co-ordinates communications with other government departments.

Finance and Administration Branch reports directly to the deputy minister and oversees internal audit, budget and property management, as well as expenditure, revenue and payroll transactions.
The department maintained 52 field offices strategically located in communities throughout the province and delivered a broad range of programs with 1,292.8 full-time equivalent positions for the 2005-06 fiscal year.

Key Partners - Goal 1 of the plan "Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems" is in part dependent on the success of recycling programs offered by SARCAN, (www.sarcsarcan.ca) a major recipient of third party funding from the department, and independent industry-created organizations like the Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (www.scraptire.sk.ca) and Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corporation (www.usedoilrecycling.com). Saskatchewan Environment administers the legislation governing these organizations, but has no direct influence over the performance of recycling activities.

The urban park authorities receive funding from Saskatchewan Environment and independently operate their respective parks. Saskatchewan Environment also funds the Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association and the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority is responsible for protecting, conserving and managing the surface and groundwater resources in the province. The Deputy Minister of Saskatchewan Environment is the Chair of the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Board of Directors. Saskatchewan Environment and Saskatchewan Watershed Authority work closely with other partners to ensure the safety and quality of source waters in the province.

Benefits - The quality of the environment, the strength of the economy and the health of Saskatchewan people are dependent on each other. Saskatchewan Environment works to protect and manage our province's natural environment and its contribution to the standard of living and quality of life of Saskatchewan's residents.

- Health - clean water to drink, clean air to breath and clean land to support us are the building blocks to healthy societies.
- Ecosystem - healthy ecosystems provide a multitude of ecological benefits to humans including water purification, flood control, soil fertility, pollination, seed dispersal, food and others.
- Society - The health and beauty of Saskatchewan's natural environment contribute to our physical and mental well-being. Our province's history, culture and economy are intimately linked to the land and nature.
- Economy - renewable resources (forestry, wildlife, fisheries, etc.) provide employment to thousands of Saskatchewan citizens and generate more than a billion dollars a year to our economy.
    - Forestry initiatives in northern Saskatchewan create thousands of jobs. Despite the current softwood lumber dispute strong lumber prices have kept the forest industry competitive. The industry remains a major employer and there is continued potential for expansion in Saskatchewan.
    - Approximately 66 per cent of the firms in Saskatchewan's environmental industry (recycling, consulting, conservation, manufacturing) have increased sales in the past two years and are positioned for growth in the future, according to the *Report on the Environmental Technology Sector in Western Canada* (November 2003).
    - Tourists to provincial parks spend over $129 million annually leading to the creation of over 1,000 full time equivalency jobs and an impact of over $35 million to the Gross Domestic Product. Many rural communities rely on parks as a market for their local businesses and for employment opportunities.
    - Saskatchewan Environment directly generated $53.3 million in revenue in 2005-06 from a variety of sources, such as fishing and hunting licence sales, forestry permits and dues, land sales and leases, etc.
    - Our efforts also support sustainable development in the agricultural, mining, oil and gas, energy and manufacturing sectors, which contribute over $9 billion to the provincial economy.

2005-06 Results at a Glance

This section provides a summary of Saskatchewan Environment's most significant performance results or areas requiring further attention. Results are presented in a concise manner. More detailed information will follow in the next section.

Summary of Performance Results

Goal 1: Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

- Completed and released State of the Environment Report April 1, 2005.
- Saskatchewan has among the highest recycling rates in Canada and is now one of four provinces in Canada with a waste paint-recycling program.
- Secured over 27,000 acres of perpetual conservation easements in partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Nature Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation.
- Planted approximately 2.0 million trees in the provincial forest.
- Continued to lead a national strategy for the management of Chronic Wasting Disease.
- No significant change reported in water and air quality.
- Although there were no new additions to Saskatchewan's Representative Areas Network this year, progress has been made on a number of proposed sites identified through land use planning processes led by the department.

Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

- The 2005 fire season was the second consecutive year with extremely low fire starts and unusually benign burning conditions.
- There were 320 fire starts in 2005, compared to the 10-year average of 670 starts; this is the fewest number of fires for at least the past quarter century.
- No communities were seriously threatened, nor were any evacuations required.
- Burning in the high priority zone was limited to only 30,000 hectares, a new record for the least amount of area burned in high value/high priority areas.
- Investments in fire prevention appear to be working: human-caused starts were at 39 per cent of the 320 fires this year, well down from the long-term average of 50 per cent.
- Began to implement phase one of a long-term program for the renewal of the fire-fighting aircraft fleet.
- In 2005, the department, in partnership with the Saskatchewan Forest Centre, completed an assessment of the risk of 104 northern communities to wildfire – critical work establishing the basis for discussion of risk mitigation with communities.

Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

- Completed year one of the Regional Environmental Study for the Great Sand Hills area.
- Centennial celebrations throughout the provincial park system and the Centennial Park Passport Program were very successful, resulting in a 12 per cent increase in overall visitation.
- Recent polling indicates visitor satisfaction with provincial parks increased to 77 per cent.
- Issued 629 forest products permits to small forest operators.

Goal 4: Shared Environmental Stewardship

- Coordinated review of 28 Treaty Land Entitlement selection requests involving 4,596 hectares of Crown and private land.
- Prepared, produced and distributed to Métis communities "A Guide to Métis Hunting and Fishing Rights in Saskatchewan."
- Made limited progress in developing an agreement with the northern Métis community and Métis Nation of Saskatchewan for community-based management of subsistence resource harvests.
- Maintained a consistent number of relationships relative to last year with First Nations and Métis groups.

Summary of Financial Results

The 2005-06 approved appropriation was $172.03 million. Total 2005-06 expenses were $146.0 million, a variance of $26.0 million from the department's revised estimates. This variance is mainly due to the low forest fire activity.

The department's forecast revenue was $45.9 million for 2005-06. Actual revenue recorded by the department was $53.3 million. This increased revenue from the initial forecast is mainly due to environmental handling charges, forestry fees and dues, and fishing and hunting licence sales.

In 2005-06, Saskatchewan Environment's full-time equivalent (FTE) budget was 1,292.8. As a result of very low fire activity in 2005, the department's utilization declined to 1,227.2 FTEs.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for three funds: Fish and Wildlife Development Fund, Commercial Revolving Fund and Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund. Explanations and financial statements of these funds are found on pages 48-51.

2005-06 Performance Results

This section provides detailed information on progress that Saskatchewan Environment has made on the key actions in the department's 2005-06 Performance Plan (www.se.gov.sk.ca/corporate) and variances in the performance measures. The key actions presented in our 2005-06 plan (released March 2005) are listed below, followed by a report on actual progress for each. Actual results information is included for all key actions and performance measures that were published in our 2005-06 Performance Plan, as well as for all commitments related to Saskatchewan Environment in the government-wide Performance Plan Summary. Further information about Saskatchewan Environment's performance measures is available in our 2005-06 Performance Plan.

Annual performance information is used to assess overall progress towards goals and objectives each year, as well as any changes to risks facing the environment, which in turn, inform/adjust future plans and actions. For example, because little progress could be made to resolve the softwood lumber issues due to litigation delays, and the provincial forest industry as a whole, particularly the pulp and paper sector which is facing market and industry transformation, efforts were redirected to assist the new Forestry Secretariat in its work providing leadership to the strategic diversification of the provincial forest industry.

Goal 1 - Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

Objective 1 – Reduce Impacts to Surface and Groundwater Quality

Good quality surface and groundwater is essential to protect human and animal health, as well as to support economic and social uses. Saskatchewan Environment's strategy to manage this issue is to set water quality standards and guidelines for both surface and groundwater, promote pollution prevention and safe use, respond to specific risks and threats and regulate water and sewage discharges from large point sources such as municipalities and industrial users. Saskatchewan Environment also ensures water quality is monitored and assessed.

Progress on drinking water initiatives is reported through the government-wide *Safe Drinking Water Strategy*. Saskatchewan Environment leads implementation of this plan, which involves several government departments and agencies, and publicly reports on its implementation.

Saskatchewan continues to face growing pressure in terms of water demand. Trends in climate change indicate that proper protection and management of water sources will become increasingly important to meet both quantity and quality demands. Key factors that have the potential to drive the cost of water source protection programs include effects of energy, industry, irrigation and domestic consumption demands, and risk of water source contamination. In the longer term the effects of climate change and related land use issues will greatly impact source water protection programs.

Saskatchewan Environment uses the Water Quality Index as a measure of performance results for this objective. The department will, over time, expand the application of this measure to more watersheds and explore the feasibility of broadening the measures used for this objective to include a measure of water use per capita.

The province created the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA) in 2002 to develop new approaches to address water use and protection concerns. Saskatchewan Watershed Authority is working with stakeholders to help develop public stewardship programs for many of the Province's watersheds.

Key Results

- Review and update Saskatchewan's Surface Water Quality Objectives.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  ~ Review conducted and revisions to be finalized in the first quarter of fiscal 2006-07.

- Develop storm water runoff management guidelines.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Consultations undertaken and guidelines complete and available at: http://www.se.gov.sk.ca/environment/protection/water/EPB%20322%20-%20Stormwater%20Guidelines%20Apr%2011-06.pdf.

- Lead development of the federal-provincial Municipal Wastewater Effluents Project.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Saskatchewan Environment continues to champion and lead this work through chairing a sub-committee of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. Harmonized requirements for improved management of wastewater effluents, particularly with respect to ammonia and residual chlorine-based disinfectants, are the intended outcomes. During 2005-06, significant progress was made on developing an environmental risk management model to protect source waters. A second round of consultations was completed. It is anticipated that work on this project will continue for the next two to three years to complete this project.

Saskatchewan's Safe Drinking Water Strategy, annual safe drinking water performance plans and annual reports are available on the Internet at www.se.gov.sk.ca/environment/ protection/water/2005-06Performance Plan-DrinkingWater.pdf and at www.SaskH2O.ca/news.asp. Additional information regarding Saskatchewan's water quality and quantity are published in the State of the Environment Report 2005 which may be viewed on website www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem. Detailed information by community is available at www.SaskH2O.ca/ MyDrinkingWater.asp. Saskatchewan Watershed Authority issues performance plans and annual reports, which may be viewed at www.swa.ca/publications.

Measurement Results

Water Quality Index (WQI) ratings for watersheds within the province

Qu'Appelle	fair to good
South Saskatchewan	good to excellent
North Saskatchewan	good to excellent
Saskatchewan	good to excellent

[Source: SE and SWA monitoring results, 2005-06.]

The Water Quality Index (WQI), which is based on the national index developed by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, is an overall measure of the quality of water for specific uses such as the protection of aquatic life, livestock watering and recreation. The index is a composite of measurements of different chemicals and organisms in the water at safe levels for a particular use. It is a good measure of the quality of surface or groundwater and can help expose issues and risks impacting surface and groundwater quality.

The department has little direct control over the results of this broad measure of water quality. Samples are collected by industries and municipalities in accordance with their permits, as well as by staff of Saskatchewan Environment and other agencies.

The assessment of all watersheds using the WQI is a long-term project. Saskatchewan Environment will be using the data collected from its primary monitoring stations on the major trans-boundary watersheds. The WQI rating in the Qu'Appelle River is expected to improve over the long-term as a result of watershed planning efforts led by SWA, as well as improvements to Regina and Moose Jaw sewage treatment.

Objective 2 - Reduced Risks to the Health of People and the Environment from Air Quality

Clean air is essential for humans and most other life forms. Due to the low provincial population and moderate level of industrial activity, the air quality in Saskatchewan is generally good. Smog is rare, but acid precipitation from industry in Alberta is a potential problem, especially for parts of northern Saskatchewan. Airborne particulates, such as blowing dust and smoke from forest or stubble fires, cause the most noticeable air pollution concern. Other more localized issues are associated with intensive livestock operations, gas wells, small manufacturing and processing plant emissions. There is also concern about the increasing levels of provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for administering The Clean Air Act, which regulates most major air quality emissions in the province. The department's strategy to manage these issues is to maintain standards and guidelines, promote pollution controls and reductions, respond to emerging risks and threats, regulate emissions from large point sources such as utilities, industrial sites and mining operations and monitor and assess air quality. Efforts are also focussed on reducing GHG emissions from electricity production through greater use of green energy sources such as wind, natural gas and ethanol in gasoline. Businesses and individuals are encouraged to be more energy conscious and efficient. Good progress was made during the year in these program areas.

Key factors that can impact the cost of protecting air quality include economic growth in Saskatchewan, neighboring provinces and states that can result in increased trans-boundary drift of air pollutants, and weather and drought conditions that can result in increased forest fire activity and crop residue burning, both of which contribute to air-borne particulates. Increased emissions from the projected growth in the Alberta Oil Sands have the potential to significantly impact the long-term economic and cultural well being of northern residents

Key Results

- Participate in development of and reporting on Canada-wide standards on air quality initiatives, and inter-jurisdictional monitoring and management of acid rain.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ This work continued on several fronts. A field study to understand trans-boundary acidic emissions was completed.
  - ~ An Alberta/Saskatchewan working group on acidifying emissions was created to work on monitoring, modelling and ecosystem sensitivity.
  - ~ A situational analysis of acid deposition in Saskatchewan was prepared.

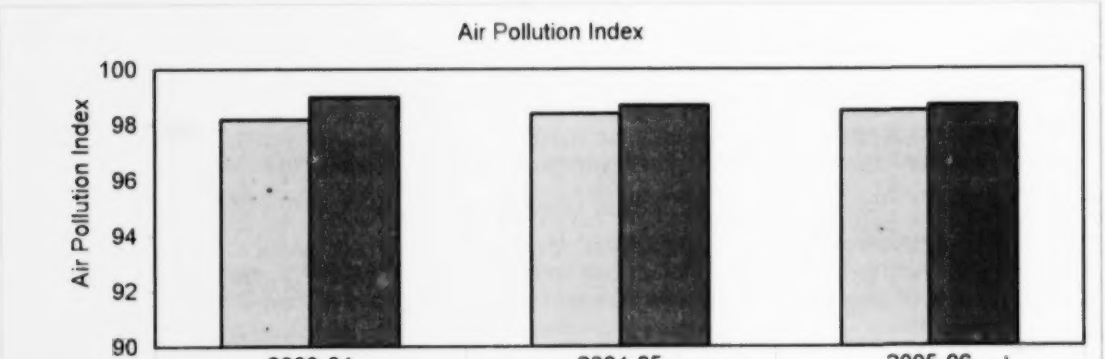
- Implement plan to improve administration of the department's Air Quality Management Program including:
  - Develop an operational protocol for the issuance of clean air permits.
    [2005-06 Performance Plan]
    - ~ In progress. In addition, monitoring and reporting requirements will be confirmed and communicated to all clients.

  - Develop a compliance and enforcement plan.
    [2005-06 Performance Plan]
    - ~ Risk assessment completed and the compliance plan drafted.

Measurement Results

Per cent of time the rating from the Air Pollution Index is good to excellent in Regina and Saskatoon (based on an annual average)

Regina – 98.5% good to excellent
Saskatoon – 98.7% good to excellent



	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Regina	98.2	98.4	98.5
Saskatoon	99.0	98.7	98.7

[Source: Environmental Protection Branch]

The air pollution index is used to monitor long-term trends in air quality. The index is a composite of data about measurements of chemicals and particulates in the air. Maintaining urban air quality is an important part of meeting this objective. Saskatchewan Environment has established monitoring stations in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert and Swift Current. This measure is only an indicator of the impact of air quality on health as it measures air quality at a point source not for the overall population. Over the longer-term, Saskatchewan Environment will also need to better define rural air quality impacts. The department has little direct control over the results of this broad measure of air quality.

Objective 3 - Reduced Risks to People and the Environment from Contaminated Land

Clean land is essential for human health and safe production of food. A range of human activities affects the quality of land and soil, and therefore, the department's performance results and program costs. The "polluter pays" principle helps limit government liabilities. Discovery of new, seriously contaminated sites where no responsible party can be found, or demand for new recycling initiatives, could affect future program costs. Most of the major land use issues have been identified and steps are being taken to address them; better agricultural and forest management practices are being adopted, contaminated sites and abandoned mines are being cleaned up, and the mining and petroleum industries are closely regulated to ensure they leave no long-term environmental effects. Waste management strategies are being developed and implemented, such as regional landfills and a variety of recycling initiatives. During 2005-06, Saskatchewan Environment maintained this gradual progress.

Saskatchewan Environment's strategy to address this objective is to continue programs that set standards and guidelines, monitor and assess soil quality and waste management practices, promote waste reduction and recycling initiatives, respond to risks and threats, and regulate disposal from large point sources, such as municipalities, utilities, large industrial emitters and mining operations.

Saskatchewan Environment uses a series of eight output measures that report on waste minimization through recycling rates and the per cent of mines with financial assurances and the per cent of mines with reclamation and decommissioning plans. The department will continue to look for insightful measures of performance for this objective.

Key Results

- Implement an electronics recycling program for Saskatchewan.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - In progress. Business proposals received and evaluated. Anticipate implementation in 2006.

- Implement new paint recycling initiatives throughout the province.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - Completed. Province-wide program with drop-off at 70 SARCAN facilities across the province as of April 1, 2006 creating economic and employment opportunities while protecting the environment.

- Develop plan to address abandoned mines.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - Draft strategy completed. New staff training ongoing.

- Develop and implement a Hazardous Substance Spills/Contaminated Site web page to inform the public on the location of current and past spills within the province.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - In progress. Web page designed and being developed. Staff are working with partners and stakeholders to ensure comprehensive representation of spills.

Measurement Results

Per cent of scrap tires recycled

Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (SSTC) reached a 69 per cent collection rate. The per cent of scrap tires recycled remained at the same level in 2005-06 as was obtained in 2004-05.
[Source: SSTC annual reports]

The number of scrap tires recycled is a waste minimization indicator. Scrap tires cause problems at landfills. They can be re-used to manufacture a number of commodities. The department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program for the management of scrap tires. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of beverage containers recycled

Recovery rate for designated beverage containers was 85 per cent in 2005-06. This is a two per cent reduction from the recycle rate attained in 2004-05.
[Source: SARCAN annual reports]

Beverage container recycling is a waste minimization indicator. Beverage containers are a litter control issue and a resource conservation opportunity. The department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program. Market conditions and the level of refundable deposit fees determine the recycling rates.

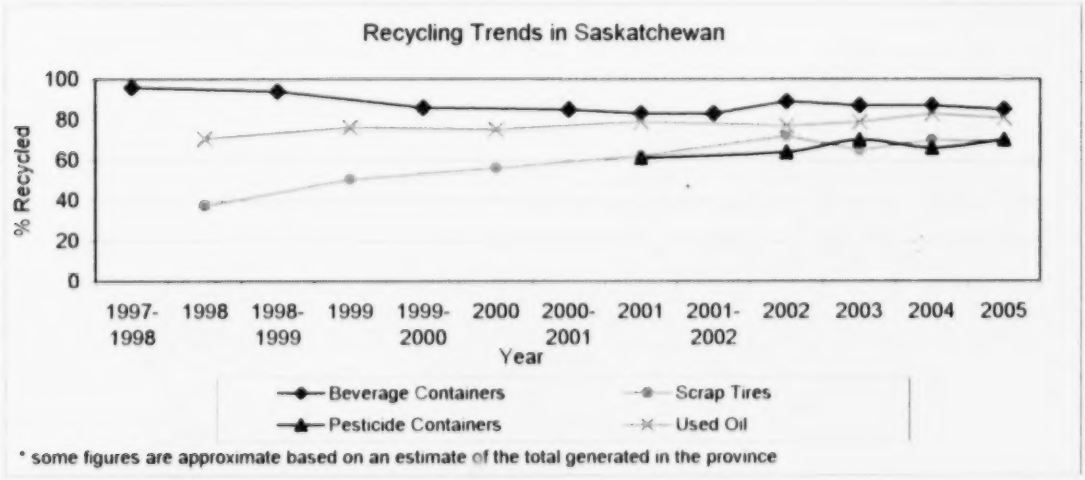
Per cent of pesticide containers recycled

As of March 31, 2006, 70 per cent of pesticide containers were recycled as compared to 66 per cent in 2004-05. This increase is due in part to an increase in sales in the 2005-06 year.
[Source: Croplife Canada]

The number of pesticide containers recycled is a waste minimization indicator as well as an indicator of how well we are protecting our environment from potential chemical contamination. The department does not have direct regulatory control or influence of this voluntary, industry-based program now in place to manage pesticide containers. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of used oil recycled

As of March 31, 2006, the per cent of used oil recycled decreased to 81 per cent from a rate of 83 per cent in 2004-05.
[Source: SARRC annual reports]



[Source: External third party organization annual reports]

Per cent of paint recycled

0 per cent

Per cent of E-waste recycled

0 per cent

The paint and electronic waste programs are being implemented within the 2006-07 fiscal year. As there will be a complete year of operation, it is expected that we will be able to report a recycling rate for the paint program in the 2006-07 Annual Report. As there will not be a complete year for the electronic waste-recycling program, it is not expected that we will be able to report a recycling rate until the 2007-08 Annual Report. Due to the backlog of electronic products, the per cent of electronic products recovered may not be the best measure of the program's performance.

In general recycling rates of products are an indicator of possible risks to people and the environment but are not a measure of the potential exposure of individuals to hazardous contaminants. Other measures will have to be considered to properly assess the effects of environmental contamination on human health.

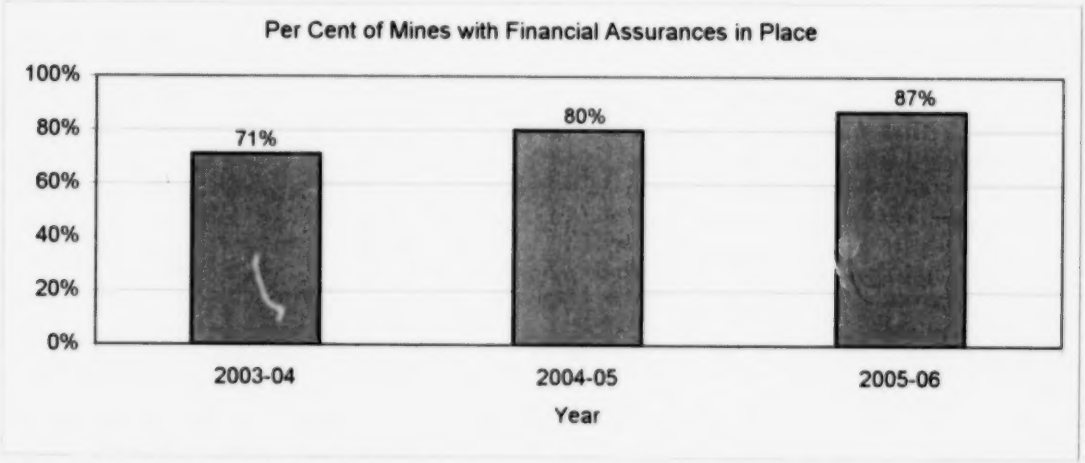
For further information on recycling of these materials see:
www.scraptire.sk.ca
www.usedoilrecycling.com
www.se.gov.sk.ca/environment/recycle/
www.sarcsarcan.ca

Saskatchewan has among the highest recycling rates in Canada. Over the long term, we will maintain our high levels of recycling and increase the types of products recycled.

Recycling is a waste minimization indicator. Benchmark percentages reported in the recycling program are based on the proportion of total annual product sales in the province. The department administers the enabling regulations for a number of third-party stewardship programs. Saskatchewan Environment has no direct influence on the recycling rates; rather, market conditions determine these rates.

Per cent of mines with financial assurances in place

In 2005-06 the per cent of mines with financial assurances increased to 87 per cent from 80 per cent in 2004-05.



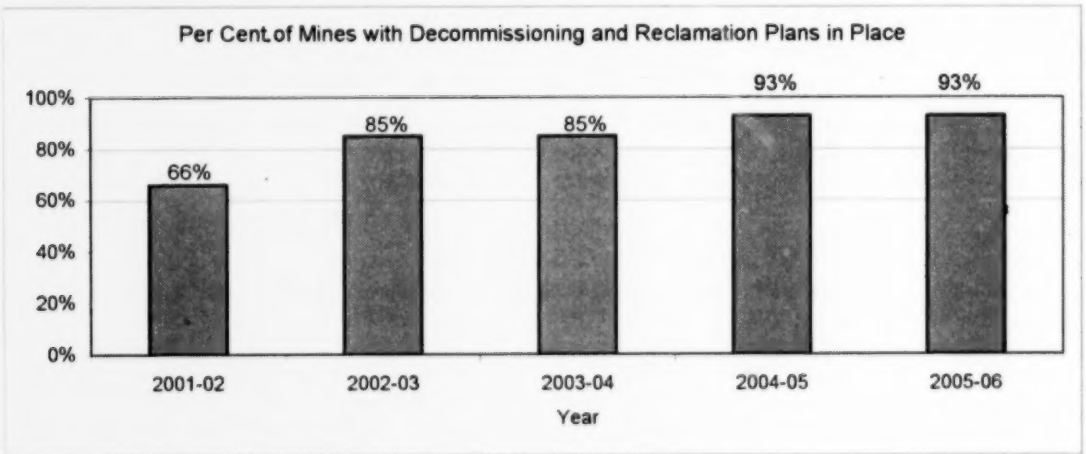
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment data and mine company annual reports]

Reclamation of mine sites can have positive impacts to the clean land objective directly by returning the site to its original natural state. Mining companies are required to have decommissioning plans and financial assurances in place to ensure that they do not place a burden on Saskatchewan taxpayers should they fail to meet their decommissioning and reclamation obligations. The department directly regulates the environmental aspects of mining operations and therefore directly influences measure results.

Financial assurances are critical to be able to mitigate the impact of contamination on land at the source of these operations. This measure is not an indication of risk but an indictor of the ability to mitigate risk.

Per cent of mines with decommissioning and reclamation plans in place

Per cent of mines with decommissioning and reclamation plans in place has remained at 93 per cent.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment data and mine company annual reports]

Decommissioning and reclamation plans put in place by mining companies ensure environmental protection at the end of the operation's life. The department directly regulates the environmental aspects of mining operations and therefore has a direct influence over the measurement results. This is a good measure of the mining industry's commitment to environmental stewardship.

Decommissioning and reclamation plans are critical for appropriate mitigating actions to be taken, ensuring land is returned to its original state. Again, this measure is not an indication of risk but an indicator of the ability to mitigate risk.

Objective 4 - Healthy Ecosystems that Support Native Biological Diversity are Stable and Capable of Self-Repair

Ecosystem-based management is an approach that involves a holistic 'systems' perspective to managing resources. Biodiversity is a term used that refers to the variety of species and the ecosystems they are a part of. Biodiversity is essential for preserving the health and diversity of living things that form the web of life on earth, including human life. Loss of ecological health can mean a loss of the system's ability to self-repair and a cycle of continuing deterioration. Such deterioration can reduce, or in some cases eliminate, the goods and services that an ecosystem provides, such as water purification or flood control, pest control, medicinal plants and food, such as fish. Replacement of these services or restoration of the

ecosystem is often very costly and in the worst cases, the service or goods may be lost from an area entirely. Due to human activity, some ecosystems and specific fauna and flora within them are at risk or have already been lost. It is important that human activities do not further reduce ecosystem health. Adopting an ecosystem-based approach to resource management and environmental protection will help to ensure ecological sustainability.

Key factors that have an impact on measurement results include price fluctuations in resource and agricultural commodities, and public environmental concerns. Typically, when resource and agriculture sectors are experiencing higher activity there is increased demand to use natural landscape and wetland areas. As a result, environmental lobby groups apply pressure to increase the pace of landscape planning and protection. This, in turn, can influence program costs.

Key programming includes the development of ecosystem management policies, enhancement of scientific information and databases through monitoring and surveys, and resource stewardship programs and plans, such as the Biodiversity Action Plan, Representative Areas Network and Species at Risk. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment maintained its programming contributing to this objective.

Saskatchewan Environment now has one output measure for this objective. This measure is important because land in the Representative Areas Network is protected for the future and it also serves as a benchmark to monitor changes across the broader landscape. Over time, the department will broaden its measures for this objective to provide an indication of ecosystem health.

Key Results

- Complete an annual report on progress of implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ This report will be completed in 2006-07.
  - ~ Secured over 27,000 hectares of perpetual conservation easements under partnership agreements with Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Nature Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation.

- Continue development and management of a system of protected areas that are representative of the province's terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ The Representative Areas Network now comprises 5.96 million hectares.

- Ensure renewal of harvested areas within the provincial forests:
  - Survey areas covered by the Pasquia-Porcupine Forest Management Agreement and Island Forests to determine actual regeneration status.
    [2005-06 Performance Plan]
    - ~ Completed.

  - Site preparation of approximately 1,500 hectares.
    [2005-06 Performance Plan]
    - ~ Target exceeded. Actual was 1,733 hectares.

  - Plant approximately 2.0 million trees.
    [2005-06 Performance Plan]
    - ~ Completed.

  - Tend approximately 1,750 hectares.
    [2005-06 Performance Plan]
    - ~ Completed.

- In co-operation with federal/provincial/territorial jurisdictions, lead development of a national strategy for the management of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in the wild in Canada.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ National strategy completed and signed by federal and provincial Ministers October 2005.
  - ~ Completed testing of all 2005 samples from Saskatchewan hunters.
  - ~ Saskatchewan will continue to provide national leadership to CWD management.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares in the Representative Areas Network

5.96 million hectares in 2005-06
[Source: Resource Stewardship Branch]

Although no new representative area designations have been added this year, progress has been made on a number of proposed sites identified through forest land use planning processes.

Adequate amount and distribution of natural/native habitats under the Representative Areas Network (RAN) ensures that terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems persist into the future and serve as a benchmark against which we can monitor the effectiveness of environmental stewardship across the broader landscape.

Natural landscapes with representative fauna and flora unique to a given natural ecoregion are selected by the department for designation as a representative ecological site for inclusion in the RAN. All contributing lands are counted, including those of government and non-government partners. The RAN program is striving to ensure an adequate percentage of representation of each natural ecoregion in the province.

Saskatchewan Environment has direct site designating and management influence over this measure. However, the need to consult with local interests may result in a slower rate of progress. This measure of number of hectares in the RAN is an indicator of the province's commitment to supporting native biological diversity but does not show the current ability of the ecosystem to repair itself.

Goal 2 - People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

Objective 1 - Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk

The expanding uses of the forest, the increasing population of northern Saskatchewan and the deterioration of fire management infrastructure are placing unprecedented challenges on the province's fire management program. As predicted climate warming occurs, additional pressures for fire protection over the long-term can be expected. However, newly realized ecological benefits of fire challenge traditional views that all fires must be suppressed. Allowing fires to burn creates a natural vegetation mosaic and maintains the diversity of natural habitats. Fires help remove the build up of natural litter in the forest, reducing the risk of large, intense and costly fires. Fire also assists in moderating insect and disease infestations. Prescribed fires are used in selected provincial parks as part of vegetation management. In the broader forest landscape, the challenge is to find the proper balance between fire suppression to protect values at risk and the management of fire to maintain healthy and diverse ecosystems.

Protection of human life and communities from wildfires will continue to be the program's top priority. Effective fire protection includes prevention, detection, initial attack, and sustained action. A number of support requirements are essential for fire suppression operations, including training, equipment and fuel procurement, air tankers, and related infrastructure. Saskatchewan Environment must seek to manage risks where capital and operating expenditures are considerable. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment made good progress in implementing its new fire strategy and protection strategies reflected the values being threatened and the potential beneficial aspects of each fire. Decisions balanced the risk fire poses to all values with the capability to provide protection in a given situation.

Saskatchewan Environment has two output measures for this objective that provide a good indication of how well the program is performing in the full response zone. As the department gains experience with its reclassified zones, it will develop measures of program performance in both the modified and the observation zones.

Key Results

- As part of implementing a 10-year fleet renewal strategy, replace three bird dog planes and two of four land-based tanker aircraft, research options for the timing of replacing the skimmer fleet, and improve program infrastructure.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Renewal of the wildfire aerial fleet progressing on target.
  - ~ Given the recent fatal air tanker crash, Saskatchewan Environment will reassess and reconsider the next phase of fleet renewal extending through 2010-11.

- Renew First Nation and northern community contracts to supplement fire suppression capacity.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Final discussions underway to renew a five-year Fire Suppression Services Agreement.

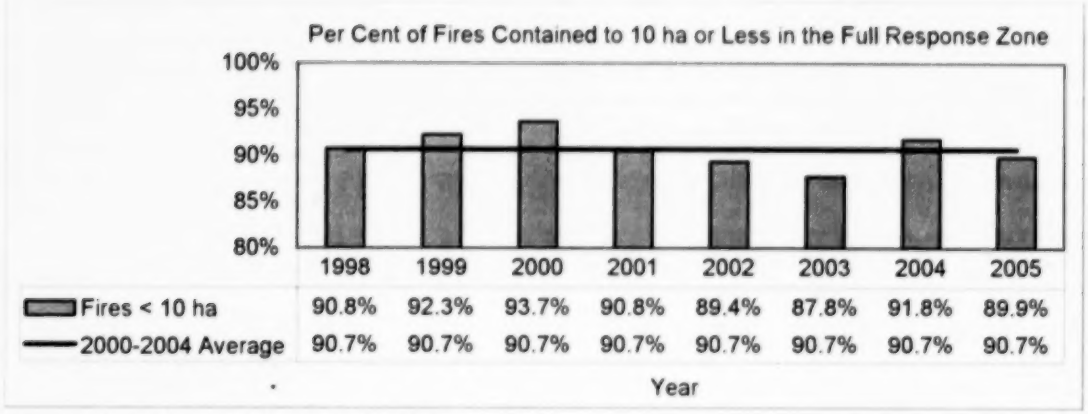
- Improve occupational health and safety training in the fire program.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Good progress in several areas including changes in reporting structure for provincial safety officers, creation of a new safety coordinator position, audit of occupational health and safety supervision, workshop series developed with SIAST, and new web-based information system completed.

- Erect 20 new fire towers to reduce reliance on aerial detection systems.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed.

Measurement Results

Per cent of fires in the full response zone contained to 10 hectares or less

For the 2005 fire season, 169 of the 184 fires in the full response zone were contained to a size of 10 hectares or less. This translates to an 89.9 per cent containment rate. This exceeds the long-term rate by 1.3 per cent.



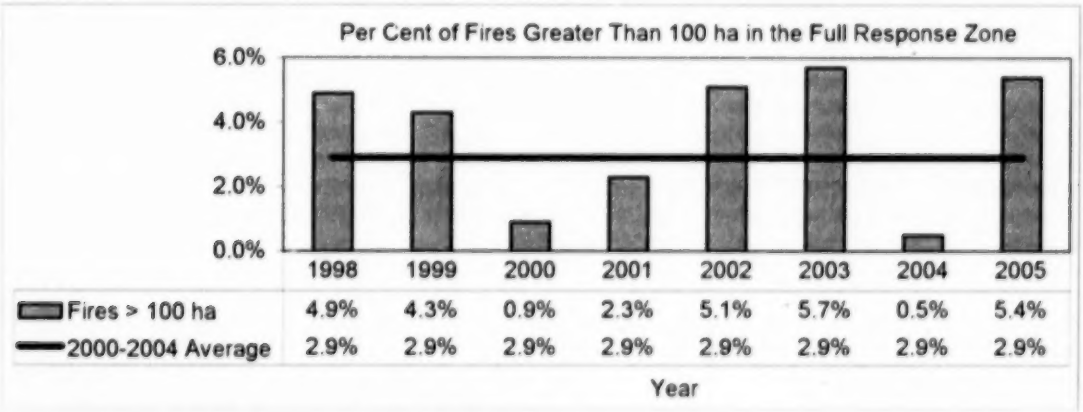
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

The percentage of contained fires is a measure of how well the pre-planning, detection and initial attack components of the program are working. Containing fires to smaller sizes will minimize the number of communities threatened by fire, as well as reduce the area burned and the costs associated with fire suppression. Saskatchewan Environment's performance results and operating costs depend on a number of factors: analysis of the landscape and its vulnerability to fire starts (e.g., moisture levels, wind speed and direction, fuel type), effective planning to pre-position resources in areas where fire might be expected, ease of access to the location of the fire, topography of fire location, early detection of fires, rapid/effective initial attack and quick reliable support from aircraft.

This measure is a good indicator of risk to people, resources and property value because fires contained to 10 hectares or less can be extinguished efficiently by our resources.

Per cent of escaped fires in the full response zone that are larger than 100 hectares

In 2005, 5.4 per cent of escaped fires in the full response zone (communities and commercial timber) exceeded 100 hectares.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

Escaped fires are an unavoidable occurrence in forest fire programs. Uncontrollable circumstances, such as poor detection conditions; multiple fire starts; dry, windy burning conditions; the volatility of the fuel; proximity to resources to allow for successful initial attack; topography; and the time of year can all combine to create conditions that allow fires to grow beyond 100 hectares. Resources to suppress fires escalate as the fire size grows, so costs also grow quickly.

Again, this measure is a good indicator of risk because as fires exceed 100 hectares they become a greater risk to people, resources and property values.

Objective 2 - Increased Capacity of Individuals, Communities, Industries and Others to Take Responsibility for Reducing Fire Hazards and Wildfires

Wildland fires pose a threat to people, property and natural resources. Residents, communities and businesses need to take precautionary actions to protect their interests. Reducing the risk of wildland fire is a key priority for the provincial fire management program.

The challenge of current programming is to increase co-operation and training among fire management agencies and foster a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of municipal fire management jurisdictions in the province. Other specific initiatives are focussed on vegetation management in provincial parks and on Crown lands, and on educating and encouraging individuals, businesses, communities, cottagers and visitors to the North to prevent wildland fires and reduce wildfire risks. Saskatchewan Environment continued good progress in reducing human-caused fires over 2005-06 and is also working with communities to encourage improved safeguards.

Saskatchewan Environment now has one measure for this objective. The measure focuses on individuals, while the objective includes individuals, communities and industry. The department is working to broaden its measures for this objective to provide insight on performance in relation to communities and industry; for example, the department is now working on a measure of communities with safeguards in place.

Key Results

- Deliver a high profile public awareness campaign to reduce human-caused fires and encourage people active in the forest to take responsibility to avoid or mitigate risk from fires.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ 2005 campaign completed and evaluated. 2006 campaign plan completed as well as several new educational tools (Missinippe Broadcasting interview, new displays, new public service announcements).

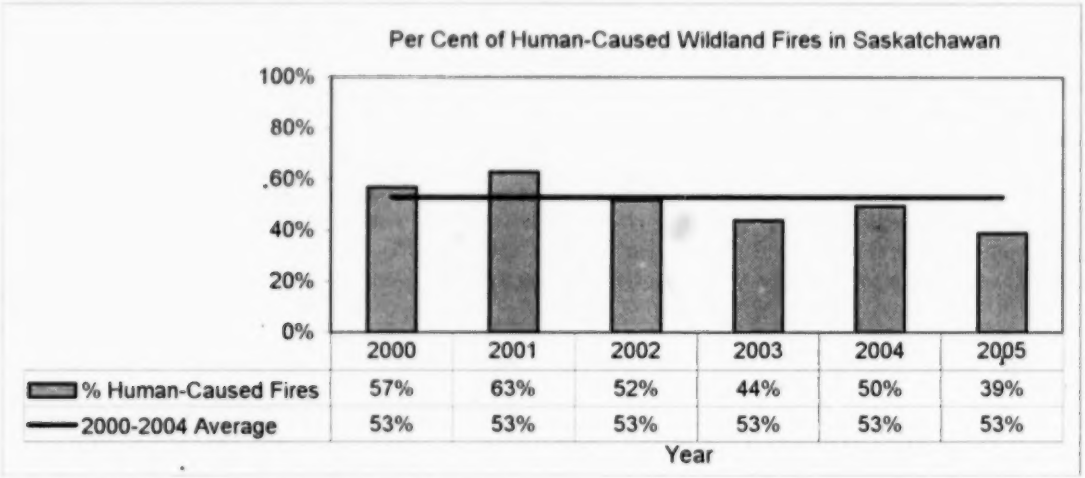
- Increase the capacity of municipalities to suppress wildfires and encourage greater self-sufficiency for fire management outside the provincial forests through training.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Trained 53 municipal personnel from Wynyard, Swift Current and Prince Albert.
  - ~ Development of a new Values Protection Course for municipal employees in progress.

- Develop fuel management strategies to reduce landscape fire risk augmented with forest harvesting guidelines and updated priority zones.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Numerous fuel management initiatives were developed in 2005 including a manual on how to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan and how to complete a fuel management proposal.

Measurement Results

Percentage of human-caused wildland fires

Of the 320 total fire starts in 2005, 39 per cent were human-caused fires. The five-year average for human-caused starts is 53 per cent. On a whole number basis human-caused starts dropped from 161 fires in 2004 to 124 in 2005. This is the fourth consecutive year where the number of human-caused fire starts have decreased.



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
% Human-Caused Fires	57%	63%	52%	44%	50%	39%
2000-2004 Average	53%	53%	53%	53%	53%	53%

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

The wildland fire prevention education and awareness campaign is designed to reduce the percentage of human-caused wildland fires by encouraging individuals to recognize their responsibility for containing the fires they start, by providing individuals with the information they need to be aware of the risks of starting a wildfire, and to use fire safely. Increasing this awareness is intended to reduce the percentage of human-caused fires, which typically occur closer to communities and resort properties where more people are located. The branch has also begun to focus more effort on educating northern communities leading to better understanding of the impacts of human-caused wildfire. The department has indirect influence over this measure.

This measure does not reflect the increased capacity of individuals and organizations to take responsibility for the reduction of fire hazards. It is an indicator of the impact of human-caused fires and the department's capacity to deliver this program.

The branch is focussing on developing measures which are a better indicator of community commitment and capacity to take responsibility for wildfire prevention and suppression.

For additional information on Saskatchewan Environment's Fire Management Program see: www.se.gov.sk.ca/fire/.

Goal 3 - Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

Objective 1 - Equitable Allocation of Natural Renewable Resources

Saskatchewan Environment ensures an equitable allocation of land and resources to competing interests that satisfy environmental, social and economic needs. Conflict over resource use can impinge upon existing uses, delay or stop potential developments, or negatively impact the quantity or quality of natural renewable resources. Saskatchewan Environment's approach to managing these issues and the risks associated with them are to monitor health and abundance of the resources, set standards and guidelines for sustainable use, issue land disposition and resource allocations, promote and monitor compliance with conditions, respond to specific risks and threats, improve the health and abundance of the resources, and identify new economic opportunities for sustainable use.

Integrated land use planning is one of the key tools the department uses to assist in maintaining ecosystem health and determining an equitable allocation of resources among competing users within a designated geographic area. The process provides the opportunity for all impacted resource users to be involved in developing a land use and resource management plan for large or small areas. The planning process and the subsequent implementation of the plans consider sustainability over the long-term. Over the past 10 years, six plans have been completed encompassing more than seven million hectares. There are currently six additional plans in progress, encompassing over five million hectares.

A key factor that impacts performance results, and, to some extent program costs, is supply and demand for commodities, which in turn drives research, exploration and development activity in the resource sector. Integrated land use planning is often used to keep a balanced perspective among sustainable economic development, environmental, and cultural and traditional use concerns. Consultation and communication processes inherent in integrated land use plans are key factors in stakeholder acceptance of allocation of natural renewable resources. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment maintained its programs and services targeted at this objective and made progress in development of a new fish management strategy and implementation of the Great Sand Hills Regional Environmental Study.

Saskatchewan Environment has one output measure for this objective. The department is working on developing a broader range of measures for the different types of resource allocation.

Key Results

- Continue planning processes that result in the preparation, finalization and implementation of integrated land use plans to guide protection, management and allocation of Crown resource lands in the province (projects include: North Central, Pinehouse-Dipper, Nisbet Forest, Fort a la Corne, Great Sand Hills, Buffalo Pound, Pasquia-Porcupine, Prince Albert Model Forest, La Ronge Corridor, Amisk-Atik, Manitou and Clearwater-Northwest).
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Worked to initiate a planning process for Clearwater, to establish an implementation team for Amisk-Atik, annual review of Pasquia-Porcupine, designation of the Northern Advisory Planning Commission to oversee implementation of the La Ronge Corridor, consultation with Pinehouse-Dipper, North Central, Athabasca, Fort a la Corne, Nisbet and Buffalo Pound, and ongoing plan implementation for Prince Albert Model Forest, La Ronge Corridor, Amisk-Atik, Great Sand Hills, Manitou Sand Hills, and Pasquia-Porcupine.

- Begin implementation of the Great Sand Hills Regional Environmental Study.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Study on target. Budget approved, Scientific Advisory Board established, field work begun and consultations ongoing with stakeholder groups.

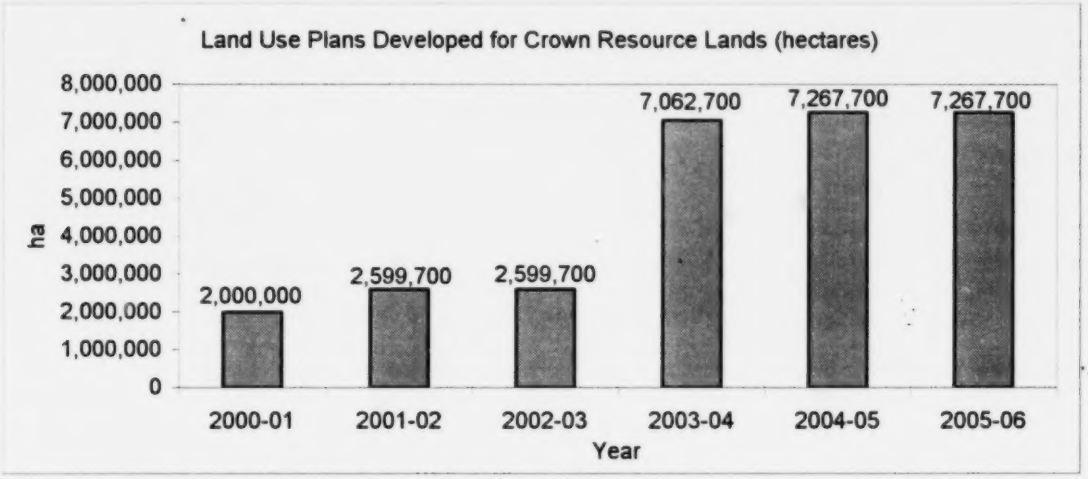
- Undertake productivity surveys on Saskatchewan Environment's fisheries monitoring lakes (benchmark legacy lakes) to determine if current levels of harvest are appropriate and if lakes can sustain increased allocations.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Ongoing. Database for aquatic assessment is operational and processing field survey data underway.

- Begin development of a new provincial Fisheries Management Strategy.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Background document, fact sheets and information folder completed.
  - ~ Request for Proposal issued to design and implement a survey.
  - ~ Preparations underway for public consultations.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares of Crown land under Integrated Land Use Plans (ILUP)

The number of hectares of Crown land under integrated land use plans remained at 7,267,700. A draft of the Fort a la Corne land use plan has been compiled and will add 132,000 hectares once approved.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, Resource Stewardship Branch]

Integrated land use planning is an ecosystem-based tool that links the environment, the community and the economy in ways that help ensure the sustainability of resources. The unification of the varied interests through the ILUP process requires time, commitment, a high level of participation and financial resources. Any influences that adversely affect any of these four key components will result in at least a degree of loss of control or influence over the measure.

This measure is a good reflection of the ability of the department to ensure an equitable allocation of resources. Integrated land use plans are one of the foundations for long-term sustainable land use in the province.

Objective 2 - Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands

Crown lands and provincial parks are public assets administered by Saskatchewan Environment for public use and enjoyment. These areas provide economic, environmental, social and cultural benefits to the province. Saskatchewan Environment's park programs maintain park landscapes and buildings to promote a high-quality visitor experience within a natural setting, set standards and policies for sustainable use and enjoyment of parks, monitor and enforce policies essential to a safe and enjoyable park experience, promote tourism and business development opportunities within parks and in nearby communities and manage overlapping demands from competing park users. The department also leases and permits the sale and use of Crown land and resources, such as expanding the access to cottage opportunities in parks and on resource Crown lands across the province.

The Commercial Revolving Fund (CRF) is utilized to manage annual operating budgets for provincial parks. Three-year averages are used to establish annual revenue projections and set the operating budgets for each park location. Weather plays the largest role in determining the degree of success and financial stability of the park program because of its impact on annual park visitation. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment made progress towards this objective, and worked to establish future direction through creation of a plan for future direction of parks.

Saskatchewan Environment has two measures for this objective, one output and one quality (satisfaction) measure. While this objective is focussed on both park and Crown resource lands, data sources for measures related to Crown resource lands are currently not available. The department is developing a plan for future direction of provincial parks, which may help inform choices about future performance measures for this objective.

Key Results

- Complete implementation of the provincial parks centennial promotion, including special celebration events and interpretive programs.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Very successful program including Centennial Parks Passport contest and celebration events undertaken throughout the parks system.

- Complete development of a plan for the future direction of provincial parks.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ A Parks Legacy Framework is nearing completion that will require specific action plans for each park.

- Continue judicious implementation of a new cottage development program, in consultation with First Nations, provincial park cottagers and other interest groups.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Pending Cabinet direction, work will continue on implementation in 2006-07.

Measurement Results

Number of provincial park visitations

There were 2,339,300 visits recorded at provincial parks in 2005 from the May long weekend to Labour Day. This was an increase of 10 per cent from 2004. Factors contributing to increased use were a warmer summer, as well as many park-based, centennial year activities.

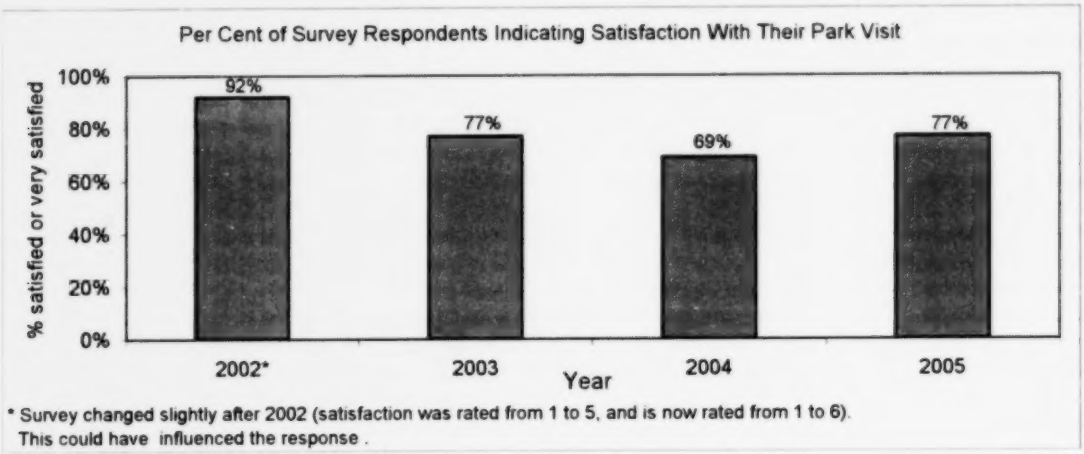
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment Summer Visitation and Outdoor Recreation Statistical Report]

The number of visitations to provincial parks is a measure of park access and popularity. Tracking this number helps Saskatchewan Environment evaluate the success of its park policies and related programs. Other than the weather conditions influencing park visits, Saskatchewan Environment has direct influence on the demand for provincial park use through marketing, park fees and recreation opportunities provided.

This measure is a good indictor of the usage of the provincial parks but does not necessarily reflect a sustainable use of these facilities.

Per cent of survey respondents indicating satisfaction with their park visitations

Seventy-seven per cent of the respondents who indicated that they had visited a provincial park in 2005 were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience. The level of satisfaction is up eight per cent from 69 per cent in a similar survey carried out after the 2004 summer park season. The centennial celebrations and generally good weather may have been contributing factors to an increase in satisfaction.



[Source: Saskatchewan Omnibus Poll]

Saskatchewan Environment provides access to natural and cultural areas and recreational facilities and services in our provincial parks. Park visitor satisfaction levels assess, from the visitor's perspective, the results of these activities. Saskatchewan Environment's parks-related programs and facilities directly influence visitor satisfaction.

While this measure is a good indicator of satisfaction, that may only be an indirect indicator of accessible recreational and educational opportunities. This satisfaction level may not reflect the sustainability of the resource either.

Objective 3 - Increased Economic Benefits Based on Sustainable Use of Natural Renewable Resources

Sustainable use of natural resources contributes more than $1.3 billion to the provincial economy. Forestry initiatives in northern Saskatchewan create thousands of jobs and expand business opportunities. Nature-based tourism (hunting, fishing, camping, etc.) generates millions of dollars annually in economic activity. Provincial parks alone trigger a net increase in economic activity of $59 million and 1,044 full-time jobs.

Saskatchewan Environment programs seek to identify, promote, and develop opportunities for additional use of natural resources with the involvement and support of affected communities, the private sector, Aboriginal groups, and other users of the landscape. Activities supporting this process include identifying the size and accessibility of resources and assessing the potential for sustainable use. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment maintained programs and services in support of this objective, though some redirection of effort was necessary to respond to emerging priorities within the objective.

Saskatchewan Environment has four output measures for this objective. The objective focuses on both economic impacts and sustainable use. One of the measures focuses on sustainable use, though it is limited to the forested area of the province; another measure is an indicator of economic impact of provincial parks; the third is a proxy measure of economic impact; and the fourth is a measure of use of one resource. Over time, the department will bring greater consistency to its economic performance measures and broaden its sustainable use measures to encompass more resources.

Key Results

- In conjunction with Tourism Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Centennial 2005 Office and other partners, implement 2005-06 marketing plan for provincial parks to expand tourism in the province. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Centennial Park Passport Program was very successful and provincial parks featured prominently in both local and provincial centennial celebrations throughout the province resulting in a 12 per cent increase in overall visitation.

- Analyze inventory of unallocated forest areas to determine quality and size of raw materials for potential new industrial development.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ The department re-directed resources to the new Forestry Secretariat to provide support of its work providing leadership for the strategic reconfiguration of the province's forest industry, as the sector adapts to changing Canadian and world markets.

- Develop the "changed circumstance" proposal necessary to resolve softwood lumber trade dispute with United States of America. Implementation is dependent on success of negotiations between federal governments.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Participation on hold, pending results of US extra-ordinary circumstances challenge. NAFTA earlier ruled on US Coalition for Fair Lumber Imports challenge in favour of Canada.
  - ~ Progress determined by bi-lateral negotiations, which have been going very slowly.

- Develop allocation and forest management agreement amendments to attract one major softwood user to the province to accommodate changes in mill ownership in Pasquia-Porcupine supply area.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ On hold pending notification of sale of Hudson Bay plywood mill and Carrot River sawmill.
  - ~ Resources diverted to address allocation issues surrounding the announcement of the Prince Albert pulp mill closure.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares of Crown lands within the provincial forest having a suite of sustainable management tools in place

Seven million hectares remain the baseline. No additional hectares were added this year.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment Forest Service Branch internal data]

Sustainability of the forest industry is dependent on a wide variety of factors. The number of hectares of Crown land within the Commercial Forest that have in place a comprehensive suite of management tools is a new measure, or indicator, of sustainable use of Saskatchewan's provincial forest resources.

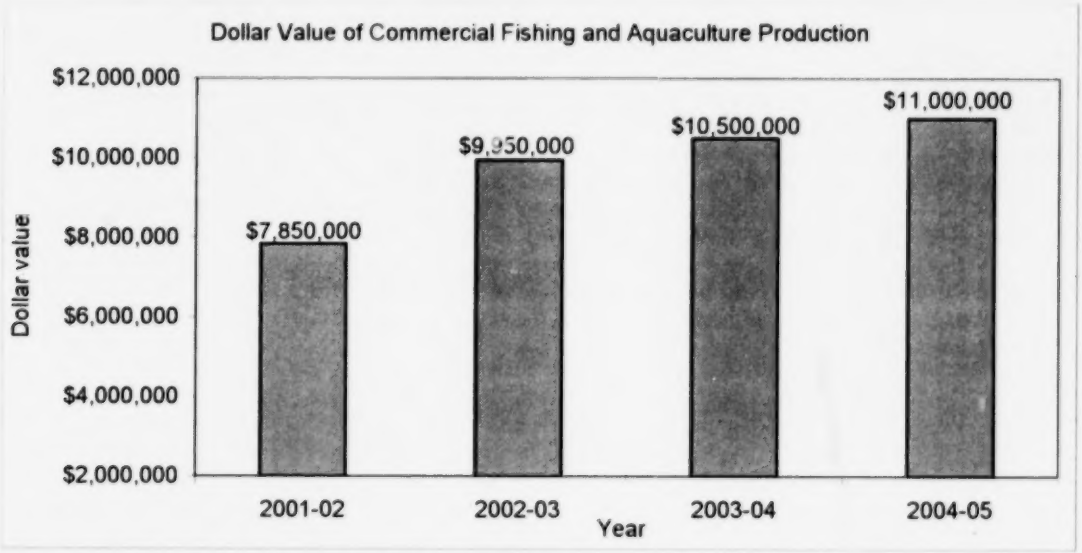
Sustainable management tools include having an adequate forest inventory, reforestation plans, appropriate environmental assessments, forest management agreements and land use plans.

The department has direct influence over this measure because sustainable management tools are department lead. Factors that influence forestry development initiatives include lack of infrastructure in remote areas, market demands and opportunities for value added products.

This measure is a good indicator of the province's ability to ensure sustainable use of the renewable forest resource.

Dollar value of commercial fishing and aquaculture production

The value of commercial fishing in 2004-05 was over $11 million. This value considers all commercial fish product sales, licence sales, brine shrimp fishery and the overall value of the aquaculture industry in Saskatchewan.



Note: The data has a lag time of more than one year.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment and the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation]

Revenue to commercial fishers and value of aquaculture production contribute to the economy of the province.

Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over this measure for commercial fishing through designating and assigning catch quotas for commercial fishing sites, and for aquaculture through evaluation and approval of commercial aquaculture proposals from the industry.

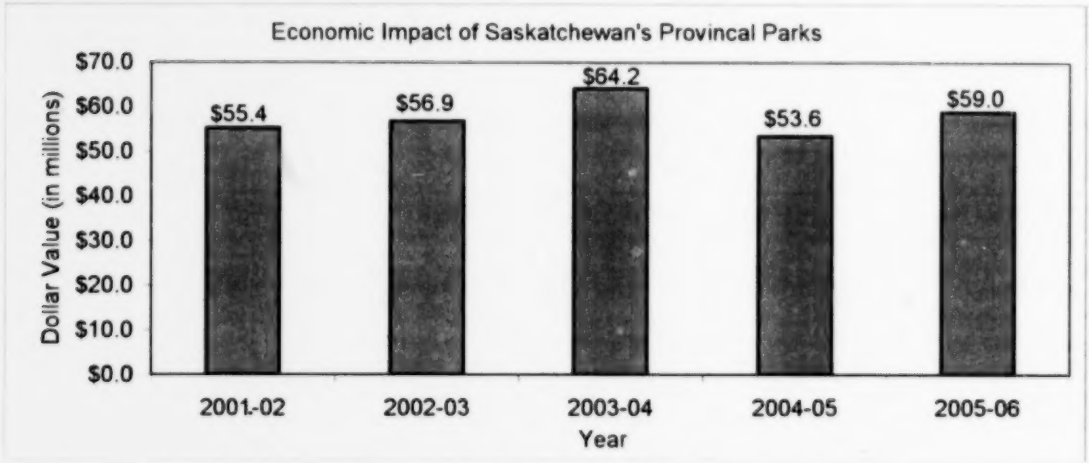
Factors such as market conditions, weather, forest fires and job changes by fishers affect the measurement results. The data to gauge progress towards this measure has a lag-time of more than one year.

This measure reflects the level of activity in commercial fishing and aquaculture production but is not a good indicator of resource sustainability.

Economic impact of Saskatchewan's provincial parks

$59.0 million in 2005-06.

The provincial parks make a significant contribution to the economy.



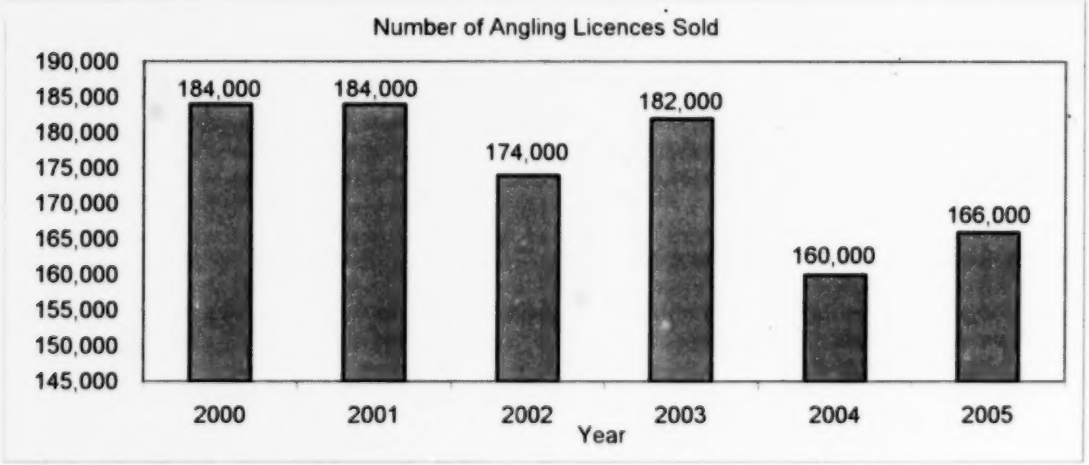
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, Strategic Planning and Corporate Assessment Section]

Thirty-three per cent of all visits to provincial parks include tourists who come from outside the province and Saskatchewan residents who travel more than 199 kilometres to a park. Any expenditure that they make during a stay at the park, and the government's expenditures on provincial parks, increases the economic activity and impacts the Gross Domestic Product.

Factors such as weather and gas prices can impact the number of visits, length of stay and visitors' expenditures. Saskatchewan Environment has some influence on the economic impact as the department determines length of operating season and annual infrastructure investment. This measure is a good indicator of economic benefits realized in the province. Other indicators need to be established to determine the sustainability of the use of this resource.

Number of angling licences sold

165,585 in 2005.



[Source: Resource Stewardship Branch, Saskatchewan Environment.]

Sport fishing is an important element of nature-based tourism that contributes to the economy of the province. Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over sport fishing through fishing regulations. Factors like the weather, licence fees and sport fishing quotas affect sport fishing in the province.

This measure is a very general indication of the economic activity in the sport-angling sector but is not an indicator of the sustainability of the resource.

Goal 4 – Shared Environmental Stewardship

Objective 1 – Comprehensive and Integrated Environmental Strategies

This objective reflects a strategic shift in the way the department delivers its mandate. Many issues facing the environment are changing. They are often dispersed across the landscape, such as water pollution, air pollution and the invasion of exotic species. Others result from large numbers of small individual actions, such as habitat fragmentation. Still others cross provincial or national boundaries, such as climate change. These types of issues are more likely to be effectively handled through approaches featuring partnerships, education, economic instruments and technical innovation, rather than a more formal regulatory approach.

Over the coming years, Saskatchewan Environment will gradually complement its traditional command-and-control regulation with an approach featuring increased emphasis on shared responsibility among the regulated community, non-government organizations, the public and the science/technical community. Saskatchewan Environment's strategy to pursue this goal now incorporates two main initiatives. The first is development of a Green Strategy for the province. This government-wide plan will better integrate environmental, social and economic considerations through improvements to policy integration and regulatory reform, implementation of ecosystem-based approaches, such as those reflected in the Biodiversity Action Plan, and greater application of environmentally responsible technologies. The second is development of a compliance plan for the department. The compliance plan will focus department activities on higher risk issues, facilitate development of a wider range of non-regulatory tools and improve application of fees and permits. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment made excellent progress toward this objective on several fronts.

Saskatchewan Environment is working on developing a performance measure for this objective. A tentative measure has been chosen and the department is working to establish baseline data.

Key Results

- Lead development of a government-wide Green Strategy that will contribute to integrated and shared responsibility for environmental protection and the development of a green and prosperous economy. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Hosted six public Green Forums and a draft strategy has been prepared in conjunction with a number of other provincial agencies.
  - ~ Anticipate a public announcement in 2006.

- Develop proposals for legislative reform and expansion of policy tools in order to broaden compliance approaches and streamline processes. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Research was conducted on initiatives in other jurisdictions where outcome-based approaches and a broader range of compliance measures are in place.

Other Accomplishments

- The department led a substantial effort to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the federal government and to secure $20 million in federal funding commitments for large climate change projects involving SaskPower and the Crown Investment Corporation.

Measurement Results

Under development

Objective 2 - First Nations and Métis Rights and Interests are Met Through Co-operative Means

The First Nation and Métis people have Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests in the renewable natural resources administered by Saskatchewan Environment. The department is committed to accommodating these rights and interests while ensuring conflicts with other societal needs are resolved in a co-operative manner.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for helping to fulfill the terms of Saskatchewan Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Agreements as they relate to Crown resource land. There are currently 50 active selection files involving Crown resource land administered by Saskatchewan Environment in the TLE review process. In addition, 45 selections have received reserve status to date, encompassing over 73,400 hectares of Crown resource land. There is one specific claim and one land exchange currently active on Crown resource land involving 271 hectares of land.

First Nations seek greater decision-making authority over resource management. Changing interpretation over the duty to consult continues to contribute to uncertainty in resource development. Department programs seek to engage Aboriginal groups, government departments, the federal government and other institutions in working relationships that address one or more of the following goals: ensuring recognition and respect for Treaty and Aboriginal rights; conservation of species and habitats; involvement of Aboriginal communities in economic benefits derived from renewable resources; and building the capacity of First Nation and Métis communities and organizations to effectively co-operate in environment and resource management program and policy development. Programs within the department are designed to create conditions through Aboriginal employment and cultural awareness that enable Saskatchewan Environment to effectively respond to Aboriginal interests and rights. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment made progress toward this objective on several fronts.

Saskatchewan Environment has one output measure for this objective. Over time the department intends to develop a measure that provides insight on the effectiveness of its cooperative relationships with First Nations and Métis groups.

Key Results

- Refine the policy and enforcement guidelines on Métis subsistence rights as interpretation comes from the Courts (R. vs. Laviolette) and in consultation with Métis communities and other provincial departments.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Policy and guidelines completed.

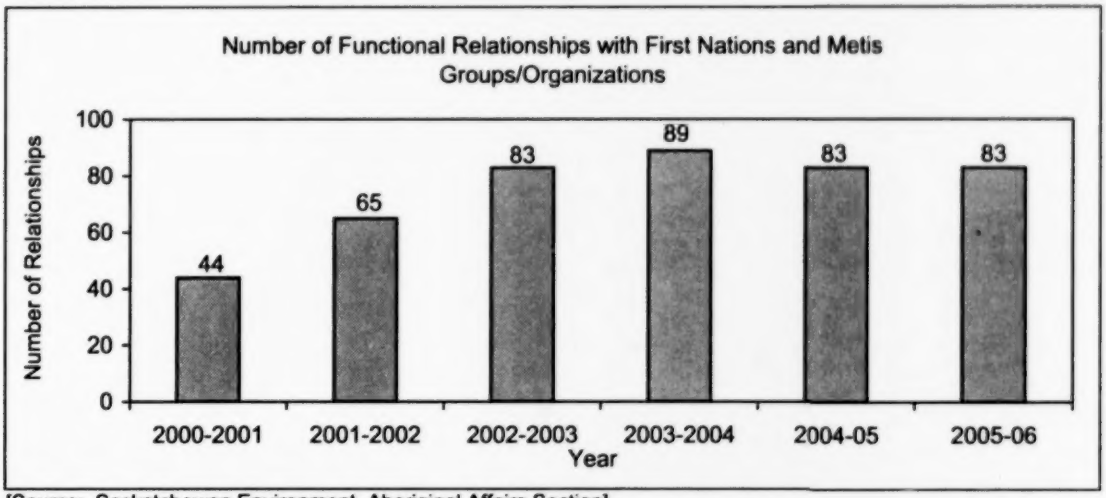
- Work with First Nations and Métis Relations, Saskatchewan Justice, Northern Affairs and First Nations to develop a provincial policy on the duty to consult.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Policy work is in progress.
  - ~ Interim guidelines completed.

- Work co-operatively with entitlement First Nations to help them acquire land they are entitled to purchase, pursuant to Treaty Land Entitlement Agreements.
  [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Conducted reviews and responded to 115 TLE selection requests involving 103,756 hectares.
  - ~ No land sales occurred for TLE purposes on Crown resource land in 2005-06. One land exchange was finalized with Lac La Ronge Indian Band where 130 hectares of Crown resource land was exchanged for an equal amount of reserve land to allow for community expansion in Sucker River.

Measurement Results

Number of Co-operative Relationships with First Nations and Métis groups

The number of functional cooperative relationships continues to be maintained at the target of 83. Some agreements have reached maturity and although the formal agreements have dissolved, the functional relationships with First Nation and Métis groups are maintained while efforts to negotiate new agreements continue.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, Aboriginal Affairs Section]

Functional co-operative relationships with First Nations and Métis groups can be formal (written) or informal (oral) agreements and arrangements can include consultation/communication, capacity building, resource management decision-making, conservation projects, interpretive programs, community justice, economic development initiatives in the resource management sector, land use planning, etc. All relationships provide a foundation on which the department and the Aboriginal group or community can meet, discuss and continue working together.

Saskatchewan Environment and Aboriginal organizations are collaborating to create arrangements that result in benefits to the ecosystem, sustainable resource-based economic developments and improved consultation and Aboriginal involvement in decision-making.

A functional co-operative relationship with a First Nation organization, whether formal or informal, involves regular face-to-face meetings to address issues at hand or to develop mutually beneficial natural resource management policies.

The department has direct influence over these relationships through the ability to establish formal agreements and/or through addressing controversial resource management issues by face-to-face discussions.

This measure is an indicator of the department's effort to meet the needs and interests of these groups. However, this measure may not reflect the ability of the department to meet the rights and interests of First Nations and Métis peoples. This measure is not an indicator of the breath or depth of these shared environmental stewardship relationships and their impact on the environment.

Objective 3 - Strengthened and Comprehensive Compliance Strategies

Compliance efforts are used to achieve Saskatchewan Environment's goals and objectives. The compliance function is the effort that directly encourages the community to conduct themselves in accordance with requirements established by law, or to take action for positive effects on the environment. The department's compliance model seeks to encourage voluntary compliance through information and education. When voluntary compliance appears to fail, efforts shift to prevention through targeted physical inspection, direct interaction and, when necessary, investigation and enforcement.

Saskatchewan Environment's scan and risk assessment suggests that environmental problems require a more sophisticated combination of compliance tools, as well as more focussed and risk-based management approaches that prioritize compliance and enforcement activities. During 2005-06, Saskatchewan Environment made good progress in identifying new ways to enhance compliance through partnerships, education, communications, and creative prevention programs. Efforts are also being made to carefully match compliance tools to type and level of risk.

The department has one output performance measure for this objective. The measure is focussed on an activity where compliance is critical to human health and where the department has been working to improve compliance. Over time, the department will develop measures to provide improved perspective on rates of compliance in some of the key areas of environmental impact and potentially to provide perspective on the breadth of strategies used by the department to improve compliance.

Key Results

- Begin implementing a risk-based annual compliance plan including increased education and voluntary compliance techniques, and prioritized areas for active monitoring and enforcement. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Draft compliance plan completed. The draft plan is informing compliance activities. The compliance plan will be complete early in 2006-07 and key actions incorporated into the department's Performance Plan and Internal Operating Plan.
  - ~ A number of successful enforcement convictions led to significant media coverage and education focused on resource abuse.

- Establish a specialized prosecutor in Saskatchewan Justice. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Implementation was delayed. Anticipate completion in 2006-07.

- Develop with other departments and agencies, a plan for renewal of dispatch and radio support. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Department has representation on government-wide committee and options continue to be examined.

Other Accomplishments

- Expanded Aboriginal conservation policing model through placement of First Nation seasonal conservation officers at Meadow Lake, Prince Albert and La Ronge.

Measurement Results

Number of municipal waterworks which do not meet minimum treatment requirements

Safe drinking water is critical to human health. Meeting minimum treatment requirements is a measure of infrastructure water treatment capability, and therefore of the safety of drinking water that they produce. Saskatchewan Environment has a high level of influence over this measure through the department's regulations; however, because of significant costs for treatment upgrades, communities need time and encouragement to comply. Saskatchewan Environment's staff are working with communities to help them understand the importance of meeting these requirements and to encourage them to improve their performance in providing safe drinking water.

21 as of September 30, 2005.
[Source: Environmental Protection Branch]

This is a reduction of four from the previous year and reflects the ongoing effort of municipalities to comply with government minimum treatment requirements.

This measure is a good indicator of the ability of communities to comply with government requirements regarding safe drinking water.

Objective 4 - Effective and Efficient Environmental Approval and Regulatory Processes

One of Saskatchewan Environment's key roles is to provide the environmental approval for new developments and regulations for existing developments that govern people's actions so the environment is protected for future generations. In addition to the numerous formal acts and regulations, the department also uses less formal tools such as permits, establishing best management practices, standards and guidelines, and industry self-regulation.

The Environmental Assessment Act is intended to facilitate new economic developments that exhibit environmental integrity. Environmental approvals are based on an environmental impact statement prepared by the proponent and reviewed by Saskatchewan Environment, or, for very significant developments, on a full environmental assessment. Proponents prepare environmental impact statements early in the planning and design phase of projects to document the broader impacts of the development proposal on the social, economic and biophysical aspects of the area. In recent years, much work has been done in conjunction with the oil and gas industry to streamline the approval process, and facilitate understanding and resolution of environmental concerns early in the project planning stage. Full environmental assessments involve opportunity for public input and a more comprehensive review of impacts. Saskatchewan Environment's performance and cost to deliver these services are driven by caseload; dictated by the nature and number of development proposals being advanced at any particular time. On average about 250 project proposals are reviewed annually with six to ten of them necessitating an environmental impact assessment. During 2005-06 Saskatchewan Environment maintained its gradual progress toward this objective.

Saskatchewan Environment is working on developing a performance measure for this objective. The department is exploring the possibility of using a measure of client satisfaction, and is examining options to secure this information on a regular basis.

Key Results

- Lead the development of a policy for institutional controls of decommissioned mine sites. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Complete. Saskatchewan Industry and Resources is the lead department. This work lays the foundation for new legislation that will implement the final piece of provincial policy on uranium mine regulation.

- Implement and monitor hard rock exploration screening guidelines through the Saskatchewan Mineral Exploration Government Advisory Committee. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Complete. 13 best management practices developed to date have all been implemented.
  - ~ Regulations, policies and standards governing existing industries are developed over time based on the best available science, industry, stakeholder and public input. As the mineral exploration evolves, additional best management practices will be developed.

- Identify other sectors where potential exists to standardize environmental requirements and implement more specific and efficient environmental permitting requirements. [2005-06 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Regulations, policies and standards governing existing industries are developed over time based on the best available science, industry, stakeholder and public input.

Measurement Results

Under development

Other Key Accomplishments

- Processed 5,784 exploration and development environmental reviews in support of the oil and gas industry.
- Hosted 2.3 million visitors at 34 parks throughout the province.
- Conducted inspections of 548 waterworks, 509 sewage works and 300 landfills.
- Completed the Rafferty/Alameda wildlife land remediation project in the area surrounding the reservoir.
- Completed 2005 workplan with municipalities and the Saskatchewan Dutch Elm Disease Association to control Dutch Elm Disease.
- Completed the spruce budworm control program for 2005, spraying 40,000 hectares of the commercial forest.
- Administered 2,161 cottage leases throughout the province.
- Hosted six public Green Forums across Saskatchewan attracting more than 500 attendees at public meetings and more than 200 participants in stakeholder meetings.
- Developed a departmental Diversity Action Plan and continued to deliver Respectful Workplace initiatives.
- Implemented a succession management program and the department's fourth mentoring program.
- Finalized an environmental assessment bilateral agreement with The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

- Completed development of an Integrated Risk Management Framework to help embed risk assessment in Saskatchewan Environment's performance management system.
- Effective union/management relations continued through the department's local and provincial Union Management Committees.
- Implemented Saskatchewan Environment's Occupational Health and Safety Strategic Plan delivering workshops, developing a safety manual and safe work procedures.
- Maintained the ISO 14001 certification of Saskatchewan Environment's forestry program's environmental management system.
- Enhanced revenue collection systems by introducing a revenue reconciliation process for the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account.
- Completed delivery of 2005 conservation and stewardship education programs through the Prairie Conservation Action Plan.
- Developed new internal processes for preparation and administration of contracts.
- Developed a long-term capital asset replacement plan.
- Updated delegated signing authorities for both human resource and financial transactions.
- Processed 112 documents for Cabinet's consideration and presented 10 workshops on preparing Cabinet documents.
- Green technology was incorporated into capital project requirements and greening/recycling themes incorporated into park operations and interpretive programs.
- Aggressive expansion of the department's high speed electronic network to all but three locations housing department offices in the province.
- An agreement was reached with the Information Technology Office to proceed with amalgamation of information technology services in 2006-07.
- Completed implementation of the department's 2005-06 Communications Plan.
- Closed the Emergency Fire Fighter Wage and Equipment Rental Imprest Bank Accounts, eliminating audit issues and concerns.

Summary of Saskatchewan Environment's 2005-06 Performance Plan

The 2005-06 Performance Plan builds on the 2004-05 Performance Plan, which was published in July 2004. The goals and objectives of the plan are to be realized over the long-term. Key actions are to be implemented during the current fiscal year to contribute to the longer-term goals and objectives.

2005-06 Goals

Similar to 2004-05, Saskatchewan Environment has four main goals and 13 objectives.

Goal 1: Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

Objective 1: Reduced Impacts to Surface and Groundwater Quality
Objective 2: Reduced Risks to the Health of the People and the Environment from Air Quality
Objective 3: Reduced Risks to People and the Environment from Contaminated Land
Objective 4: Healthy Ecosystems that Support Native Biological Diversity are Stable and Capable of Self-Repair

Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

Objective 1: Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk
Objective 2: Increased Capacity of Individuals, Communities, Industries and Others to Take Responsibility for Reducing Fire Hazards and Wildfires

Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

Objective 1: Equitable Allocation of Natural Renewable Resources
Objective 2: Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands
Objective 3: Increased Economic Benefits Based on Sustainable Use of Natural Renewable Resources

Goal 4: Shared Environmental Stewardship

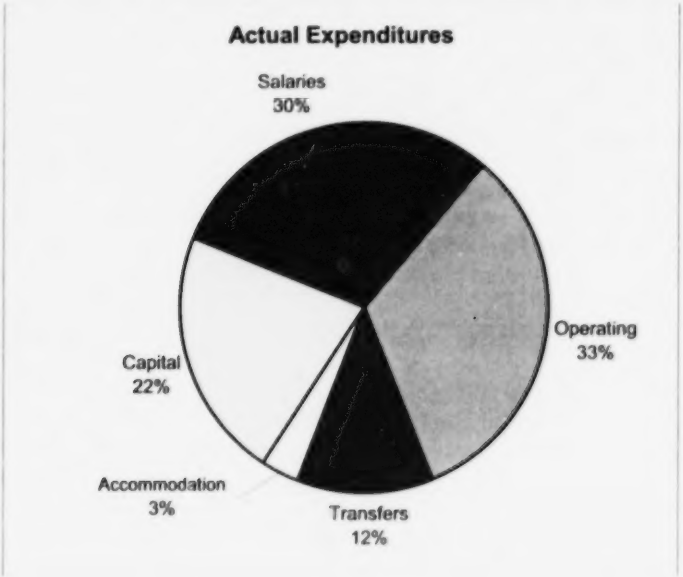
Objective 1: Comprehensive and Integrated Environmental Strategies
Objective 2: First Nations and Métis Rights and Interests are Met Through Cooperative Means
Objective 3: Strengthened and Comprehensive Compliance Strategies
Objective 4: Effective and Efficient Environmental Approval and Regulatory Processes

2005-06 Financial Results

Expenditures

The department's expenditure estimate for 2005-06 was $188.7 million. Including the projected capital expenditure of $20,765K and the associated amortization expense of $4,085K, the department's total approved expense for 2005-06 was $172.03 million.

Total 2005-06 expenses were $146.0 million, a variance of $26.0 million from the revised estimates. The significant variances are explained in the expenditure table below.



Summary of Expenditures

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Subvote	2005-06 Estimates ($ 000's)	Actual Expenditure* ($ 000's)	Variance Over/(Under) ($ 000's)	
ER01 Executive Management	1,301	1,290	(11)	
ER02 Central Management Services and Accommodation	17,480	17,183	(297)	
ER08 Compliance and Field Services				
Field Operations	9,830	10,760	930	
Compliance and Enforcement	3,537	3,548	11	
Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund - Net Financing Requirement (Statutory)		6	6	
Subvote Total	13,367	14,314	947	
ER09 Forest Services				
Forest Programs	8,042	8,182	140	
Reforestation	3,617	3,719	102	
Insect and Disease Control	2,066	1,979	(87)	
Subvote Total	13,725	13,880	155	
ER10 Fire Management and Forest Protection				
Forest Fire Operations	68,405	33,336	(35,069)	(1)
Recoverable Fire Suppression Operations	1,400	1,661	261	
Fire Capital	19,240	46,407	27,167	(2)
Subvote Total	89,045	81,404	(7,641)	
ER11 Environmental Protection				
Air and Land	3,909	4,078	169	
Beverage Container Collection and Recycling System	10,648	10,945	297	
Drinking Water Quality Section	3,006	2,722	(284)	
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Operations	419	419	0	
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Water Control	3,915	3,915	0	
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Water Quality	1,831	1,831	0	
Subvote Total	23,728	23,910	182	
ER15 Resource Stewardship	7,371	7,363	(8)	
ER07 Fish and Wildlife Development Fund				
Fish Development	1,847	2,090	243	(3)
Wildlife Development	1,855	1,855	0	
Subvote Total	3,702	3,945	243	
ER04 Parks and Special Places				
Park Programs	3,388	2,643	(745)	(4)
Facilities Capital	1,275	2,395	1,120	(4)
Commercial Revolving Fund - Subsidy	5,127	5,007	(120)	
Commercial Revolving Fund - Net Financing Requirement (Statutory)	0	539	539	

Subvote	2005-06 Estimates ($ 000's)	Actual Expenditure* ($ 000's)	Variance Over/(Under) ($ 000's)	
Meewasin Valley Authority (Statutory)	740	740	0	
Meewasin Valley Authority Supplementary	74	74	0	
Wakamow Valley Authority (Statutory)	127	127	0	
Wakamow Valley Authority Supplementary	12	12	0	
Wascana Centre Authority (Statutory)	782	782	0	
Wascana Centre Authority Supplementary	78	78	0	
Wascana Centre Authority Maintenance	1,840	2,140	300	(5)
Prince Albert Pehanon Parkway	132	132	0	
Swift Current Chinook Parkway	86	86	0	
Subvote Total	13,661	14,755	1,094	
ER14 Planning & Risk Analysis	5,336	5,220	(116)	
Subtotal	**188,716**	**183,264**	**(5,452)**	
Capital Assets Acquisitions	(20,765)	(41,322)	(20,557)	
Capital Assets Amortization	4,085	4,088	3	
Total Expense	**172,036**	**146,030**	**(26,006)**	

Explanation of Variances:
(1) Forest Fire Operations under expenditure is mainly due to low fire activity.
(2) The increase in Fire Capital is a result of Cabinet approval for Phase 2 of the aerial fleet renewal.
(3) In 2005-06, the actual license sales exceeded the budgeted level. The Fish and Wildlife Development Fund receives 30 per cent of license sales revenue from the General Revolving Fund resulting in the over expenditure.
(4) Transfer between Provincial Parks Program and Facilities Capital was mainly to recognize and record expenditures in accordance with capital asset accounting and reporting policy.
(5) Wascana Centre Authority received approval for a one-time capital asset replacement.

Capital Assets

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for a vast array of capital assets such as the fire suppression air fleet and infrastructure, and parks facilities and infrastructure managed by the department. These assets figure strongly in Saskatchewan Environment's capital plan because of the essential role they play in program delivery.

Capital assets purchased or constructed by the department are stated at cost, which includes the purchase price and other acquisition costs such as installation, legal fees and design and engineering fees. The department also capitalizes all direct costs relating to projects under construction and other administrative costs directly attributable to the construction or development activity. The estimated useful lives of capital assets range from five to forty years.

As of March 31, 2006, Saskatchewan Environment's total capital assets have a net book value of $76.2 million ($33.0 million in 2005). The majority of these assets are in fire and parks programs.

During 2005-06, the department spent $41.322 million for capital acquisitions of wnich $39.348 million was directed to fire aerial fleet renewal and fire detection tower projects.

To date, Cabinet has approved Phase 1 and 2 of the fire fleet renewal plan at a cost of approximately $137 million. Phase 1 concludes in 2006-07 with Phase 2 wrapping up in 2010-11.

At the completion of Phase 1 and 2, the province's fire fleet will include four CV580A's that will replace the older Dehavilland Tracker air tankers and additional birddog aircrafts used to guide the air tankers to

their targets. Work will have commenced on the conversion of the CL-215's to turbine engines, and the rehabilitation of supporting infrastructure such as fuel and retardant storage facilities, aprons, runways and tarmacs will be in progress.

Phase 3 proposals, scheduled to begin in 2009-10, have yet to be presented to Cabinet for approval. This phase would see the completion of the CL-215 conversions and the strengthening of the aprons, runways and tarmacs. Total cost for the 3-phase aerial fire fleet renewal strategy would be approximately $220 million. The existing fire fleet that is being replaced was acquired from Saskatchewan Property Management at a minimal value.

Thirty-four fire observation towers are in operation for the 2006 fire season (14 for 2005). An additional 17 observation towers will be constructed over the next four budget years in order to complete the tower network. Saskatchewan Environment has a legal responsibility/mandate to manage wildfires and the development and implementation of a comprehensive fire tower network is a fundamental building block to meet this mandate.

Most of Saskatchewan's provincial park core area facilities, including drinking water and wastewater systems are reaching, or are being maintained beyond their useful life. The net book value of tangible capital asset in the parks system is estimated at $26.62 million. It is estimated that parks facilities and infrastructure would cost $160 million to replace.

In 2005-06, the parks facilities capital program improved, built or restored several of the existing park facilities and infrastructure. Some of the projects included:

- Replacement of Rainbow Service Center at Cypress Hills Inter-provincial Park.
- Upgrade sewage lagoon primary cell at Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park.
- New sewage force main at Moose Mountain Provincial Park.
- Replacement of campground service centre at Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park.
- Electrification upgrade of Sandy Bay campground at Candle Lake Provincial Park.
- Facility improvements at Meadow Lake.

To prioritize major capital acquisitions in the Parks Facilities Capital, representatives from throughout the department review the existing condition of park assets and prioritize the capital projects scheduled for the next three years. Projects are prioritized based on their ability to meet or contribute to:

- health, safety and environmental protection standards;
- reduction of maintenance and operational costs;
- improved resource protection;
- enhanced educational opportunities; and,
- increased park visitor access and satisfaction.

Effective April 1, 2005, Saskatchewan Property Management transferred all responsibility and obligation for the buildings and improvements located in the provincial parks to Saskatchewan Environment as provided in Section 13 of The Parks Act. The total net book value of buildings and improvements transferred is $6.752 million. The average useful life of most of these buildings is 25 years and approximately 63 per cent of these buildings have 8 years or less of useful life remaining.

Parks Branch is currently working on a detailed, long-range plan for the parks system that will be released in 2006-07. It will be based on a strategic framework and priority actions identified for each park through public consultations.

	Land and Buildings	Machinery and Equipment	Transportation Equipment	Office and Information Technology	Infrastructure	Total 2006	Total 2005
Cost:							
Opening Cost	13,866	10,265	14,909	6,529	3,369	48,938	39,534
Add: Acquisitions	1,171	953	38,010	510	678	41,322	9,404
Transfers internal - from/(to)	16,929	0	0	0	0	16,929	0
Less: Write-downs	0	885	793	889	0	2,567	0
Less: Disposals	0	11	0	0	0	11	0
Closing Cost (A)	31,966	10,322	52,126	6,150	4,047	104,611	48,938
Accumulated Amortization:							
Opening balance	1,384	6,048	4,209	3,760	515	15,916	13,855
Add: Annual Amortization	715	223	1,328	287	427	2,980	2,061
Transfers internal - from/(to)	10,966	0	0	0	0	10,966	0
Less: Write-downs	0	614	23	822	0	1,459	0
Less: Disposals	0	11	0	0	0	11	0
Closing balance (B)	13,065	5,646	5,514	3,225	942	28,392	15,916
Net Book Value (A-B)	18,901	4,676	46,612	2,925	3,105	76,219	33,022

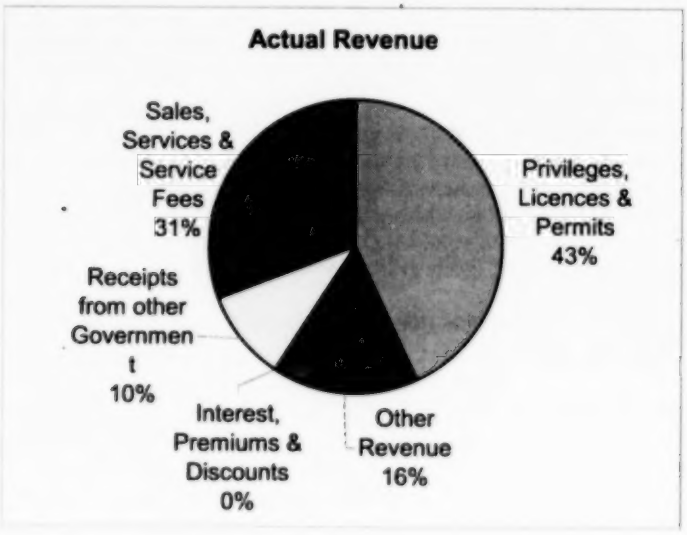
Information on Third Party Funding

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid ($ 000's)
Beverly - Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board	Operating grant	15
Canadian Council of Forest Ministers' Secretariat	Sustainable Forest Management and Science and Technology Working Group – special purpose account agreement	8
Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment	Annual contribution in support of CCME business plan	32
Canadian Forest Innovation Council	Annual membership in support of CFIC's programs	18
Canadian Parks Council	Annual membership in support of CPC's programs	4
Fish & Wildlife Development Fund	Operating grant – 30 per cent of revenues collected by the province on certain angling and hunting licenses issued	3,945
Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada	Operating grant - participation in joint silvicultural and small-scale operations programs	11
FSIN Land & Resources Secretariat	Participation in joint Land & Resources management projects	6
Fur Institute of Canada	Funding for trap research and development program, standard development, trapper education and public information programs	11
Meewasin Valley Authority	Urban park statutory and supplementary payments	814
National Forest Strategy Coalition	Contribution toward the federal/provincial agreement for the "National Forest Strategy Development"	5
Natural Resources Canada	Contribution toward the federal/provincial agreement for the "National Forest Information System"	24
Northern Saskatchewan Trappers Association	Partnership funding for ongoing fur management	15
Prince Albert, City of	Urban Park payment (Pehanon Parkway)	132
Receiver General of Canada – Natural Resource	Canadian Council of Forest Ministers – International Forestry Partnership, and Criteria and Indicators Projects	13
Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve	Operational support of World Biosphere Reserve	60
Saskatchewan Association for Firearms Education	Firearm safety and hunter education for first time hunters	55
Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers	Support professional development of conservation officers	8
Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres	Beverage Container collection and recycling program	10,945
Saskatchewan Co-operative Fisheries Limited	Operating grant	50
Saskatchewan Eco-Network Inc.	Operating grant as well as stakeholder partnership agreement	17
Saskatchewan Environmental Industry & Management Association	Annual expo and trade show sponsor, and 06-07 Directory and Buyers Guide publication sponsor	9
Saskatchewan Forestry Association	Corporate annual membership grant	15

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid ($ 000's)
Saskatchewan Regional Parks	Provide assistance for operational requirements and organizational development to support the local regional park boards	75
Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board	Funding for Guard Dog Subsidy Program	5
Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council	Operational grant for sustaining membership	11
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority	Financial support to SWA that has a mandate to manage water supplies and protect source water quality	6,165
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation	Funding for annual convention	7
Swift Current, City of	Urban Park payment (Chinook Parkway)	86
University of Regina	Great Sand Hills Study	696
University of Saskatchewan	Support the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre	50
Wakamow Valley Authority	Urban park statutory and supplementary payments	139
Wascana Centre Authority	Urban park statutory and supplementary payments	3,000
Wildlife Habitat Canada (Canadian Wildlife Directors)	Funding to Wildlife Habitat Canada, as the banker for the Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Directors Secretariat	4
Other (individual grants less than $4,000)		8
TOTAL GRANTS 2005-06 – VOTE 026		**26,458**

Revenues

Saskatchewan Environment's forecast revenue for 2005-06 was $45.9 million; actual revenue recorded was $53.3 million. The majority of this revenue comes from environmental handling charges, hunting and angling license fees, forestry fees and dues, and receipt from other governments for recoverable fire suppression costs.


Actual Revenue
Sales, Services & Service Fees 31%
Privileges, Licences & Permits 43%
Receipts from other Governmen t 10%
Interest, Premiums & Discounts 0%
Other Revenue 16%

Description of Revenue	2005-06 Budget ($ 000's)	2005-06 Actual ($ 000's)	Variance ($ 000's)	
Privileges, Licenses and Permits	22,754	22,915	162	(1)
Sales, Services and Service Fees	13,747	16,498	2,751	(2)
Interest, Premiums and Discounts	20	40	20	
Receipts from Other Governments	5,875	5,238	(637)	(3)
Other Revenue	3,553	8,624	5,071	(4)
Total Revenue Items	45,949	53,315	7,366	

Variance Explanations

(1) Privileges, Licenses and Permits. The rise in this revenue stream is the result of the harvested volumes, forestry rates increasing, and hunting and angling increased interest.

(2) Sales Services and Service Fees. Increased revenue from environmental handling charge due to increase in beverage container sales.

(3) Receipts from Other Governments. Because of the low fire activity in 2005-06 there was a decline in federal fire suppression cost sharing.

(4) Other Revenues. Due to the increased revenue associated with bottle deposits, clearing of previous years' accounts payable, and revenue received for apprenticeship training partnership for Aircraft Mechanical Engineers.

Treasury Board Crown Corporations

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA) is a Treasury Board Crown. On October 1, 2002, the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority was established to manage and protect water quantity and quality. As part of the government's Long-Term Safe Drinking Water Strategy (LTSDWS), the province consolidated the water management components from SaskWater, Saskatchewan Environment and the Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation into the Watershed Authority to focus on water management.

As a result, the authority is responsible for the allocation of ground and surface water inventory and analysis of water sources and the administration and control of all water infrastructure including operations and planning and the maintenance of provincially owned water management infrastructure. It is also SWA's responsibility to manage watershed and aquifer planning, to develop partnerships and projects that help provide healthy watersheds and provide assessment and monitoring practices that ensure the protection and restoration of the province's water sources.

This responsibility is undertaken through the administration of the regulatory provisions of The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Act.

SWA's annual report can be found at http://www.swa.ca.

Special Funds

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund

The Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF) is a special purpose fund used by the department to support habitat protection and management throughout the province. Revenues are transferred to the fund based on an amount equivalent to 30 per cent of habitat license certificates and certain hunting, trapping and fishing license fees collected by the province. Basic expenditures relate to habitat protection through the purchase of habitat and management and enhancement of habitat.

The FWDF supports Goal 3 and Objective 7 as well as Goal 1, Objective 1 through the ongoing funding support to the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2005-06 relating to the operations of the fund.

Audited Financial Statements can be found at http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the Publications section of their website.

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund for the period ended March 31, 2006
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($ 000's)	Actual ($ 000's)	Variance ($ 000's)	
Revenue	3,920	4,272	352	(1)
Expenses:				
Fish Enhancement Projects	1,500	1,478	(22)	
Wildlife Habitat Projects	1,950	2,370	420	(2)
Grant in Lieu of Taxes	300	309	9	
Rafferty/Alameda projects	65	88	23	
Total Expenses	3,815	4,245	430	
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	**105**	**27**	**(78)**	

Explanation of Variances

(1) The increase in revenue is due to greater than anticipated sales of hunting and fishing licenses.

(2) The increase in Wildlife Habitat Project Expenditures is due to higher than estimated acquisitions of wildlife conservation habitat easements.

Revolving Funds

Commercial Revolving Fund

The Commercial Revolving Fund (CRF) is the financing mechanism for collection and distribution of funds used in the operation of the province's provincial parks, recreation sites and historical parks. The purpose of the revolving fund is to conduct commercial activities required for the promotion, development and management of provincial parks. The fund receives revenue from commercial activities that take place within the province's parks and campgrounds such as camping, entry gate collection, cottage lot rental, commercial lease facilities, resource use activities and other miscellaneous items. Expenditures within the CRF relate to the operation of the provincial park system and are made to ensure safe public enjoyment of provincial parks and recreation sites.

The CRF operates under the authority of Section 18 of The Natural Resources Act. The Department of Environment administers the CRF.

The CRF supports Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources and Objective 8: Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands. The CRF contains the direct operating revenues and expenditures associated with delivering the provincial park program.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2005-06 relating to the operation of the fund. Variance explanations have been provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Audited Financial Statements can be found at http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their website.

Commercial Revolving Fund for the period ended March 31, 2006
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($ 000's)	Actual ($ 000's)	Variance ($ 000's)	
Revenue	9,950	10,322	372	(1)
Expenses:				
Salaries	9,557	9,628	71	
Operating Expenses	5,520	6,020	500	
Total Expenses	15,077	15,648	571	(2)
Net Profit / (Loss)	**(5,127)**	**(5,326)**	**(199)**	
Subsidy from the GRF	**5,127**	**5,007**	**(120)**	
Net Profit / (Loss) after subsidy	**0**	**(319)**	**(319)**	

Explanation of Variances
(1) The increase in revenue is due to greater than anticipated activity in and attendance at the provincial parks.
(2) The increase in operating expenses is due to the greater than anticipated level of activity and attendance in the provincial parks.

Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund

The Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund (RPDRF) is a funding mechanism used by the department for cost allocation of operating expenditures that apply to the Radio Communications within the department. Resource users are charged a fee based on the cost of providing the goods and services.

The RPDRF contains programs that support a number of goals and objectives within the Department. The Radio Communications segment support Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfire are Protected and Objective 5: Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2005-06 relating to the operation of the fund. Variance explanations have been provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Audited Financial Statements can be found at http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their website.

Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund for the period ended March 31, 2006
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($ 000's)	Actual ($ 000's)	Variance ($ 000's)	
Revenue	1,790	1,592	(198)	(1)
Expenses:				
Salaries	1,000	1,039	39	
Operating Expenses	790	579	(211)	(2)
Total Expenses	1,790	1,618	(172)	
Net Profit / (Loss)	**0**	**(26)**	**(26)**	

Explanation of Variances
(1) The decrease in revenue is a result of reduced fee collections due to a less active fire season.
(2) The decrease in operating expenditures is due to a less active fire season.

Where to Obtain Additional Information

Saskatchewan Environment welcomes your comments and questions.

We can be contacted by email: inquiry@serm.gov.sk.ca
phone: Rick Bates at (306) 787-0114
or Saskatchewan Environment's Inquiry Centre, Prince Albert at (306) 953-3750
toll free in Saskatchewan 1-800-567-4224
or mail: 3211 Albert Street, REGINA SK S4S 5W6

Visit our website at www.se.gov.sk.ca

Appendix A - Administered Legislation

The department derives its mandate, responsibilities and authority from a number of Acts and regulations under those Acts.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister of Environment are:

- The Clean Air Act protects Saskatchewan's air quality by regulating emissions that originate in the province.
- The Conservation Easements Act encourages private landowners, conservation organizations and governments to protect ecologically sensitive lands and natural areas through voluntary agreements.
- The Ecological Reserves Act protects unique, natural ecosystems and landscape features through the designation of Crown land as ecological reserves.
- The Environmental Assessment Act provides a mechanism for requiring and undertaking impact assessment and evaluation. Ministerial approval is required before a proponent may proceed with a development, and terms and conditions may be imposed on the approval to mitigate impacts.
- The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002 protects the air, land and water resources of the province through regulating and controlling potentially harmful activities and substances.
- The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994 enables sustainable management of fisheries resources by affirming provincial ownership of fish, creating a provincial licensing system, and regulating allocation of fish resources, fish marketing, aquaculture, sport fishing and commercial fishing.
- The Forest Resources Management Act allows the department to implement a framework for sustainable management of Saskatchewan's forest resources.
- The Grasslands National Park Act ratifies and validates the Grasslands National Park Agreement and allows the province to transfer land to the federal government for inclusion in the Grasslands National Park.
- The Litter Control Act makes littering an offence and provides for the establishment and administration of a deposit refund system for various beverage containers.
- The Natural Resources Act (subject to OC 208/96) establishes the province's mandate to manage, protect, conserve and develop renewable resources in a sustainable manner.
- The Parks Act, 1997 provides authority for the management, administration and disposition of parkland and parkland reserves.
- The Prairie and Forest Fires Act, 1982 provides for the prevention, detection and suppression of prairie and forest fires originating in provincial forests, parks and on unoccupied Crown lands. It also governs compensation for conscripted fire fighters and authorizes establishment and regulation of fire bans and burning permit areas.
- The Provincial Lands Act creates authority for the management and transfer of Crown lands.

- The Regional Parks Act, 1979 allows the Minister to assist local governments and agencies in establishing regional parks and agencies to increase availability of parks to the public.

- The Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act gives Cabinet the ability to place conditions on the transfer or lease of lands listed in a schedule to this Act.

- The State of the Environment Report Act provides for public accountability in reporting of environmental conditions and activities through the preparation and release of a State of the Environment Report every two years.

- The Water Appeal Board Act establishes the Water Appeal Board and enables the board to hear appeals regarding water, sewage and drainage issues.

- The Wildlife Act, 1998 provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife resources through the issuance and revocation of licences, the prosecution of wildlife offences and the establishment of annual hunting seasons.

- The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife lands and wildlife by preventing the sale and alteration of certain Crown lands.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority are:

- The Conservation and Development Act

- The Ground Water Conservation Act

- The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Act

- The Water Power Act

- The Watershed Associations Act

Appendix B - Key Partners and Stakeholders

The organizations listed below are considered Saskatchewan Environment's primary partners/stakeholders because they:

- are provincial in scope,
- have a significant impact on the environment or natural resources,
- are involved in major current issues, or maintain a long-term relationship with the department.

- Agency Chiefs Tribal Council
- Association of Saskatchewan Urban Park and Conservation Agencies
- Battlefords Tribal Council
- Cameco Corporation
- Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors (CAGC)
- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
- Canadian Bankers Association
- Canadian Forest Service
- Canadian Heritage River System Board
- Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- Canadian Petroleum Products Institute
- Canadian Plains Research Center
- Canoe Saskatchewan
- Claude Resources Inc.
- Climate Change Saskatchewan
- Cogema Resources Inc.
- Communities of Tomorrow
- Consumer's Co-operative/New Grade Upgrader
- Council of Saskatchewan Forest Industries
- Crop Life Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Enbridge Inc.
- Environment Canada
- Farm Woodlot Association of Saskatchewan
- Federal/Provincial Park Council
- Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
- File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council
- First Nations University of Canada
- Green Lake Métis Wood Products Ltd.
- Heritage Canada
- Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting
- Husky Oil
- IMC Kalium Canada Ltd.
- IPSCO Saskatchewan
- Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership
- L & M Wood Products Ltd.
- Meadow Lake Tribal Council
- MeeToos Forest Products Ltd.
- Meewasin Valley Authority
- Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MNS) and MNS Regions
- Millar Western Industries Ltd.
- Mistik Management Ltd.
- Museums Association of Saskatchewan
- Nature Conservancy of Canada (Saskatchewan Division)
- Nature Saskatchewan
- New North
- NorSask Forest Products Ltd.
- Northwest Communities Wood Products Ltd.
- North West Municipalities Association
- Operator's Certification Board
- Parks Canada
- Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin
- Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA)
- Prince Albert Grand Council
- Prince Albert Pêhonân Parkway
- Provincial Association of Resort Communities of Saskatchewan (PARCS)
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Saskatchewan Action Foundation for the Environment
- Saskatchewan Archaeological Society
- Saskatchewan Association of Firearm Education (SAFE)
- Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres (SARC)
- Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corporation (SARRC)
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
- Saskatchewan Cooperative Fisheries Ltd.
- Saskatchewan Dutch Elm Disease Association
- Saskatchewan Eco Network

- Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association
- Saskatchewan Environmental Society
- Saskatchewan Forestry Association
- Saskatchewan Forestry Centre
- Saskatchewan Government and General Employees Union (SGEU)
- Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund Management Corporation
- Saskatchewan Independent Forest Industries
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST)
- Saskatchewan Mining Association
- Saskatchewan Nature and Ecotourism Association
- Saskatchewan Outfitters Association
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA)
- Saskatchewan Potash Producers Association
- Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Cabin Owners Association
- Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association (SRPA)
- Saskatchewan Research Council
- Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (SSTC)
- Saskatchewan Ski Association
- Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association
- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association
- Saskatchewan Trappers Association
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)
- Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council
- Saskatchewan Water Appeal Board
- Saskatchewan Water and Wastewater Association
- Saskatchewan Watershed Authority
- Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Saskatchewan Wild Rice Council
- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
- Saskatoon Tribal Council
- SaskEnergy
- Saskferco Products Inc.
- SaskPower
- SASKTIP Inc.
- SaskWater
- Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada (SEPAC)
- Sterling Pulp Chemicals
- Swift Current Chinook Parkway
- Tolko Industries Ltd./Meadow Lake OSB
- Touchwood Agency Tribal Council
- Tourism Saskatchewan
- Trans Canada Trail Council
- University of Regina
- University of Saskatchewan
- Wakamow Valley Authority
- Wascana Centre Authority
- Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Saskatchewan Division
- World Wildlife Fund
- Yorkton Tribal Council

Appendix C – Organizational Chart

Minister
Saskatchewan Environment
Deputy Minister
Saskatchewan Environment
Finance and Administration
Financial policy, internal audit, and financial planning. In year budget, payrolls, benefits, revenues, expenditures, space, inventory, purchasing and vehicles
Resource and Environmental Stewardship Division
See Below.
Planning and Risk Analysis Division
See Below.
Compliance, Fire and Forest Division
See below.
Communications
Co-ordinates strategic communications.
Parks
Develops policy for and operates the provincial park system, and provides capital facility management and development services for the department.
Environmental Protection
Ensures province's environmental objectives are met. Sets standards and monitors compliance with environmental regulations, inspects and regulates high risk activities.
Resource Stewardship
Fish, wildlife and ecosystem management programs and policies. Land use planning initiatives and dispositions, resource land management policies and the Treaty Land Entitlement Program.
Human Resources
Human resource policy, organizational and staff development, occupational health and risk management.
Green Policy
Developing a government-wide Green Strategy and Legislation Reform.
Planning and Evaluation
Strategic planning, policy, integrated monitoring. Aboriginal affairs.
Environmental Assessment
Manages the Province's environmental assessment program.
Information Management
Manages and develops the department's information databases and technology.
Compliance and Field Services
Conservation, environmental and resource management compliance and related field activities.
Fire Management and Forest Protection
Provides and coordinates forest fire management activities and policies.
Forest Services
Develops and manages integrated sustainable forest resource management programs and services.